Russia: Saddam was preparing attacks on United States

STARS STRIPES.

Mickelson makes push for 2nd maior



Lack of cash slows weapons buyback in Iraq



Final services held for music legend **Ray Charles**

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SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 2004

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American beheaded

Report: Al-Qaida group executes contractor kidnapped in Saudi Arabia





Naples-area thieves rob Navy-contracted armored van of \$100,000 in assets

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Ne ws Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Immigrant truck deaths. A Houston judge wants to hold the lead prosecutor in contempt of court in the cases against alleged members of a human-smuggling ring authorities say are responsible for the deaths of 19 illegal immigrants after she says he violated a gag order.

U.S. District Judge Vanessa Gilmore ordered Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel Rodriguez to appear in court Friday to show why he shouldn't be held in contempt.

Gilmore contends that Rodriguez violated the gag order by talking to The New York Times about the guilty plea entered in Gilmore's court Monday by Karla Patricia Chavez Joya, who is accused of leading the smuggling ring.

Impeachment trial: Gov. John G. Rowland's attorney stormed out of the Connecticut governor's impeachment hearings in Hartford, a day before the state Supreme Court hears landmark arguments over whether Rowland must testify before the legislative impeachment panel.

The high court was to hear arguments Friday, and justices indicated they may rule from the bench the same day.

If Connecticut orders Rowland to testify, he would become the first sitting chief executive in U.S. history forced to answer questions before a legislative body.



Family members of accused double murderer Scott Peterson from left: brother Joe, father Lee, sister-in-law Janey, and mother Jackie walk into the San Mateo County Superior Court in Redwood City, Calif., Thursday.

Peterson trial: Prosecutors tried to establish a monetary motive for Scott Peterson, on trial in California for murdering his pregnant wife Laci Peterson, through testimony about valuable jewelry she inherited in the months before she disappeared. Laci Peterson, with other family mem-

bers, had inherited more than \$100,000 worth of jewelry from her grandmother before she vanished Dec. 24, 2002, witnesses have testified.

Gay marriage charges: The deputy mayor and a trustee of New Paltz, N.Y., presided over the marriages of four same-sex couples, emboldened by the dismissal of criminal charges against the mayor for performing gay and lesbian weddings.

Deputy Mayor Rebecca Rotzler and Trustee Julia Walsh officiated at the ceremonies Thursday night, a week after Mayor Jason West was cleared of 19 misdemeanor counts of solemnizing marriages without a license.



Porn rally: Rebekka Armstrong, HIV positive AIDS activist and former Playboy Bunny, speaks during a protest outside porn mogul Larry Flynt's office in Beverly Hills, Calif., on Thursday. AIDS activists rallied to persuade Flynt, who runs Hustler, to require condoms in his films.

War on terrorism

Gay marriage suit: Eight same-sex couples from outside Massachusetts said Thursday they would file suit Friday to challenge the 1913 law that has blocked nonresident gays and lesbians from marrying in Massachusetts, the first state to legalize same-sex

Missing climbers: Rangers in a helicopter spotted the body of a climber at the bottom of a deep basin on Mount Rainier in Ashford, Wash. A second climber was missing and two others asked for help, a park ranger said

Rangers were unable to reach the body but planned to fly to the site Friday to check again and search for the missing man, he said.

Abortion ruling: The Kentucky Supreme Court ruled Thursday that a fetus is a person as long as it is "viable" — capable of surviving outside the womb — and its wrongful killing can be prosecuted as a homicide.

The court discarded its long-held rule that a fetus was not a person — and its death not a homicide — until a live birth occurred.

1st AD murder case: A 1st Armored Division officer charged with murder in the shooting death of an Iraqi civilian will have a military court hearing, officials said Thurs-

Central Command, which manages U.S. forces in Iraq, issued a written statement confirming news reports a day earlier on the case against the officer. The statement, which said the charge was filed Saturday, also said the time and place of the court hearing had not been determined.

Business

Enron porn allegation: Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., says that a Web site operated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission contains links to pornographic e-mails written by Enron Corp. employees.

A FERC spokesman denied the Web site contained pornography, but acknowledged that some e-mails from Euron employees linked to the site as part of a database on alleged electricity market manipulation by Euron — may contain pornographic language. Security funding: The House rejected an effort by New York-area lawmakers early Friday to redirect security dollars to urban areas considered most at risk of terror attacks.

Following a debate that continued past midnight, the House voted 237-171 to defeat an amendment by Rep. John Sweeney, R-N.Y., that would have shifted money from a nationwide security program to one that focuses on cities considered the likeliest terrorist targets.

Pakistan al-Qaida hunt: Pakistani forces killed a renegade tribal leader allied wint suspected al-Qaida militants in an overnight helicopter assault on a mud-brick fortress near the Afghan border, the army spokesman said Friday.

Nek Mohammed, a former Taliban fighter who led fierce resistance to the army's effort to flush out foreign militants from the rugged tribal belt, died with six others late Thursday at the home of another tribal chief.

World

Philippines election: Five weeks after the presidential election, lawmakers say they have nearly completed the official vote count, with incumbent Gloria Macapagal Arroyo holding a narrow lead and her administration warning the opposition against "adventurist plots."

By Friday, the congressional committee had tallied 132 of 176 regional polling summaries — called certificates of canvass — showing Arroyo with 6,565,122 votes to Poe's 6 498 763.

Madrid bombing: The judge investigating the March terror attacks in Madrid on Friday released three Spaniards accused of helping supply the dynamite used in the bombings, court officials said.

Judge Juan del Olmo released Sergio Alvarez, 23, the last detaine to appear for questioning in the bombings. He also released Antonio Toro and his sister, Carmen, who is the wife of Jose Emilio Suarez Trashorras, an ex-miner connected with the stolen explosives.

Photos and stories from wire reports

Correction

A story in Saturday's edition about Lt. Gen. Paul V. Hester being nominated for assignment as Pacific Air Forces commander incorrectly identified his current command. Hester heads the Air Force Special Operations Command at Hurlburt Field, Fla.

Clarifications

A photo of Ronald Reagan saluting on the June 7 cover was mistakenly flipped.

A story in Wednesday's edition about a 25th Infantry Division soldier accused

of murder in Iraq contained inaccurate information. Pfc. Edward Richmond is charged with unpremeditated murder in connection with the shooting of an Iraqi civilian during a patrol in al-Hawijah, Iraq, on Feb. 28.

Iraq's sabotaged oil lines slow exports

Troops, insurgents clash near Bagouba

BY TAREK EL-TABLAWY

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Crews struggled Friday to repair sabotaged oil pipelines in southern Iraq, hoping to resume vital exports by the end of next week. A senior U.S. officer said Iraqis themselves must provide information on insurgents if the Americans and their Iraqi partners are to stop rebel at-

American soldiers clashed with insurgents Friday for a second straight day in a town outside Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad.

Insurgents also attacked U.S. troops Friday at a police station in Samarra, firing rocket-propelled grenades and rifles after warning shopkeepers in the area to close, witnesses said. U.S. troops returned fire, wounding two attackers, local residents said by telephone. There was no report on U.S. casualties.

In the south, British soldiers traded small arms fire overnight with Shifte fighters loyal to a radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr in Amarah, witnesses said Friday. There were no British casualties but two insurgents were killed

A coalition spokesman said the smaller of two oil pipelines blasted by insurgents this week had nearly been repaired but engineers were still examining the larger one.

Spokesman Dominic d'Angelo said tests could begin on the smaller pipeline Saturday but full exports would probably not resume before Wednesday. Iraqi exports were suspended Wednesday because of the attacks on the pipelines, which carry crude oil from the southern fields to tankers in the Gulf.

Exports from Iraq's other field near Kirkuk were halted last month due to sabotage on the pipeline to the Mediterranean port of Ceyhan, Turkey.

In the boldest attack in months, a car bomber smashed into a crowd seeking jobs at a military recruitment center Thursday in Baghdad, killing at least 35 Iraqis and wounded another 145.

Another car bombing on Thursday killed six Iraqi civil defense fighters and injured four others in Balad, north of Baghdad.



Abdul Razak Abdullah's mother cries outside a Baghdad hospital as she realizes he's not in serious condition. The 32-year-old man was injured in a car bomb blast in Baghdad on Thursday.

The coalition deputy operations chief told Associated Press Radio that Iraqis themselves must step forward and provide information on the insurgents if the Americans and their Iraqi and international partners are to halt the violence.

"The sooner we get every person in this country understanding their responsibility to provide us intelligence on those people in their neighborhoods who they believe to be participating in these attacks," the sooner the attacks will stop, Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt said Friday. "We need to get that intelligence from them so we can pre-empt these attacks before they happen."

He said U.S. forces were "working hard to try to develop the intelligence to find these people" responsible for the violence "so we can nip these attacks in the bud."

The fighting in Buhriz near Baqouba began Thursday when insurgents fired on a 1st Infantry Division patrol. Ten insurgents were killed and one American soldier was wounded in the ensuing firefight, division spokesman Maj. Neal O'Brien said.

Fighting resumed Friday morning when another patrol came under fire in Buhriz. At least five insurgents were killed, O'Brien said

There were no U.S. casualties. Fighting persisted intermittently throughout the day, witnesses said.

In an afternoon clash, insurgents wearing red scarves blasted a U.S. patrol with machine gunfire and rocket-propelled grenades as the Americans tried to enter the market district.

Electricity was cut off in the city due to power lines damaged in the clashes. In the Shiite city of Kufa, al-Sadr, the militant cleric, denounced interim President

itant cleric, denounced interim President Ghazi al-Yawer as an American-installed puppet. "Your alliance with the occupation will

bring only shame and disgrace to you," al-Sadr told al-Yawer in comments read by

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Pres.

As of Thursday, 831 U.S. servicemembers have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 612 died as a result of hostile action and 219 died of nonhos-

The British military has reported 58 deaths; Italy, 18, Spain, eight; Bulgaria and Poland, six each; Ukraine, four; Slovakia three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 693 U.S. servicemembers have died — 503 as a result of hostile action and 190 of nonhostile causes, according to the military.

The latest deaths reported by the

■ A Hungarian soldier was killed Thursday by a roadside bomb in a predominantly Shiite area south of Bagh-

The latest identification reported by family members:

Army Maj. Paul Syverson III, 32, Arlington Heights, Ill.; killed Wednesday in action; assigned to the 5th Special Forces Group, Fort Campbell, Ky.

an aide during the weekly Friday sermon at the Kufa mosque. Al-Sadr's uprising, launched in April

Al-Sadr's uprising, launched in April after U.S. occupation authorities closed his newspaper, has left hundreds dead in clashes with U.S. troops, although the rebellion has largely netered out.

Al-Sadr said he was "hurt" to see al-Yawer shaking hands with President Bush on the sidelines of the G-8 summit in Sea Island, Ga., last week. Al-Sadr called the visit "a sign of weakness."

Al-Yawer, a Sunni Muslim, has encouraged al-Sadr to transform his al-Mahdi Army into a political movement and compete for power in the January elections. The United States had wowed to "capture or kill" al-Sadr but now appears willing to let Iraqi authorities deal with him.

Putin: Russia gave U.S. information on possible Iraqi attacks

BY BAGILA BUKHARBAYEVA

The Associated Press

ASTANA, Kazakhstan — Rusian President Vladimir Putin said Friday his government warned Washington that Saddam Hussein's regime was preparing attacks in the United States and its interests abroad — an assertion that appears to bolster President Bush's contention that Iraq was a threat.

Putin emphasized that the intelligence didn't cause Russia to waver from its firm opposition to the U.S.-led war last year, but his statement was the second this month in which he has offered at least some support for Bush on Iraq.

"After Sept. 11, 2001, and before the start of the military operation in Iraq, the Russian special services ... received information that officials from Saddam's regime were preparing terrorist attacks in the United States and outside it against the U.S. military and other interests," Putin said.

"Despite that information ... Russia's position on Iraq remains unchanged," he said in the Kazakh capital, Astana, after regional economic and security summits. He said Russia didn't have any information that Saddam's regime had actually been behind any terrorist acts.

"It's one thing to have information that Saddam's regime is preparing terrorist attacks, (but) we didn't have information that it was involved in any known terrorist attacks." he said.

Putin didn't elaborate on any details of the alleged plots or mention whether they were tied to al-Qaida. He said Bush had personally thanked one of the leaders of Russia's Intengence agencies for the information but that he couldn't comment on how critical it was in the U.S. decision to invade Iraq.

In Washington, a U.S. official said Putin's information did not add to what the United States already knew about Saddam's intentions.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Putin's tip didn't give a time or place for a possible attack.

Bush alleged Thursday that Saddam had "numerous contacts" with al-Qaida and said Iraqi agents had met with the terror network's leader, Osama bin Laden, in Sudan.

Saddam "was a threat because he had terrorist connections not only al-Qaida connections, but other connections to terrorist organizations," Bush said. However, a commission investigating the Sept. 11 attacks reported this week that while there were contacts between al-Qaida and Iraq, they did not appear to have produced "a collaborative re-

Also Thursday, a top Russian diplomat called for international inspectors to resolve conclusively the question of whether Iraq had any weapons of mass destruction.

"This problem must be resolved ... because to a great extent it became the pretext for the start of the war against Iraq," the Interfax news agency quoted Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Fedotov as saying. He said such a finding would allow the U.N. Security Council to "finally close the dossier on Iraqi weapons."

In the wake of the invasion of Iraq, Putin sharply rebuked the United States for going to war despite opposition within the U.N. Security Council and said the threat posed to international security by the war was greater than that posed by Saddam.

But Putin's relationship with Bush is warm by the accounts of both leaders, and last week he said he has no patience for those who criticize Bush on Iraq.

"I don't pay attention to such publications," Putin said of media criticism of Bush at the end of the G-8 summit in the United States, according to the ITAR-Tass news agency.

Putin said opponents who criticize Bush on Iraq "don't have any kind of moral right. ... They conducted exactly the same kind of policy in Yugoslavia."

Russia vehemently opposed the NATO bombing attacks on Yugoslavia in 1999, which the United States pushed for under President Clinton

CIA contractor charged in death of detainee

BY AARON BEARD

The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — A CIA contractor charged with fatally assaulting an Afghan detainee was once fired from a Connecticut police department and had a history of run-ins with wives and neighbors, authorities and acquaintances said.

The contractor, 38-year-old David A. Passaro of Lillington, was charged Thursday with two counts each of assault and assault with a dangerous weapon — a flashlight.

Passaro was charged in the June 21, 2003, death of Abdul Wali, who had gone to a U.S. base in Afghanistan on his own accord that month and surrendered to authorities. The officials suspected Wali of participating in rocket attacks against the base and wanted to talk to him. Three days later, Wali was dead.

Passaro was not charged with murder because no autopsy was performed to establish a cause of death, Justice Department officials said.

It was the first time civilian charges have been brought in the investigation of prisoner abuse in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Attorney General John Ashcroft said the indictment sends a message that "the United States will not tolerate criminal acts of brutality" against detainees. Wali's case was initially referred to the Justice Department by the CIA in November.

Passaro was arrested at Fort Bragg. He was on leave from a civilian Army medical job there while doing the contract work for the CIA, according to the Army Special Operations Command.

Passaro's attorney, Gerald Beaver, said the arrest surprised him and Passaro because "it was my understanding that he would be allowed to surrender if there were any indictments."

If convicted, Passaro faces up to 40



/RAL TV/AP

David A. Passaro, of Lillington, N.C., a former Army ranger hired by the CIA to conduct interrogations, was charged on Thursday with assaulting an Afghan detainee who died after two days of beatings.

years in prison and a \$1 million fine. He was ordered held without bond after an initial appearance before a federal magistrate in Raleigh and will have a detention hearing Tuesday.

Some people who know Passaro say he has a history of aggressive behavior, while others said the alleged actions seemed "very out of character."

A spokeswoman for the Hartford Police Department, Nancy Mulroy, said Passaro graduated from the city's police academy in 1990 but was relieved of duty after he was arrested by state police before completing his probationary period.

He was convicted in 1991 of breach of peace, state police said.

He paid a \$100 fine.

Passaro's ex-wife, Kerry Passaro of Fayetteville, said her husband had assaulted a neighbor.

"He was violent toward me throughout the marriage," she told North Carolina television stations.

North Carolina records show David and Kerry Passaro were divorced in 2001 and that Passaro remarried a year later. Since then, Harnett County deputy sheriffs had been called to the rural house twice to investigate domestic fights and again to look into a complaint that Passaro fired a gun at a neighbor's dog.

The chief of the Connecticut volunteer

fire department where Passaro served in 1990-91 said the acts described in the indictment are at odds with his memory of a dedicated young man who longed for a career in public safety.

"He was one of those 110 percent people," said Joseph Lorenzetti, 49. "Whatever you needed the young man to do, he was more than cooperative. ... From when I knew the gentleman, this seems very out of character."

A former Green Beret medic and Army ranger, Passaro began his contract with the C1A in December 2002. He arrived at the Afghan base in mid-May 2003, a few weeks before the alleged abuse occurred, U.S. officials said.

In the rural community north of Fort Bragg, some neighbors described Passaro as congenial, while others said he was hot-tempered.

"Any time we ever spoke, he seemed to be a really, really nice guy," said Diana Chrostowski. "I would have never thought that of him. To me, war is a dirty job. If he did othis, we just don't know what caused him to do this."

Other neighbors recalled heated run-ins. Theresa Smith, who lives across the dirt road from Passaro, said they had a falling out after her children and a neighbor's child rode a golf cart up and down the road and alleeedly damaged Passaro's property.

"He kept to himself, I kept to myself," Smith said. "If I needed help, I wouldn't have went over there, just because of his temperament."

Passaro's brother, Stephen Passaro, told WTNH-TV he loves his brother and does not believe the Afghanistan allegations.

"I don't even know that there really was anybody that allegedly was killed during an alleged interrogation," he said.

Associated Press writers Curt Anderson and Katherine Pfleger Shrader in Washington, Estes Thompson in Raleigh and Matt Apuzzo in Hartford, Conn., contributed to this story.

Senate votes to add 20,000 more troops to Army

BY KEN GUGGENHEIM

The Associated Pres.

WASHINGTON — Defying the Bush administration, the Senate voted overwhelmingly Thursday to add 20,000 troops to an Army stretched thin by the war in Iraq and other commitments around the world.

The 93-4 vote in the Republican-led Senate — following a similar action by the House — reflected the anxieties lawmakers have been hearing from families of service personnel whose tours in Iraq keep getting extended and whose return to civillan life is repeatedly postponed.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said the lack of troops at the end of major combat in Iraq cost the military an opportunity to stop the violence that continues today.

"We didn't have enough people on the ground, and now we are paying a very, very heavy price for that incredible mistake on the part of the civilian leadership in the Pentagon of the United States of America," he said.

The increase was approved as an amendment to a \$447 billion defense authorization bill. Under the proposal by Sen. Jack Reed, Decision goes against views of Bush administration
D-R.I., the size of the Army would ers this week it costs the Army ficials have said that was neces-

increase by about 4 percent, to 502,400. Congressional aides estimated the cost at \$1.7 billion. Armed Services Committee

Chairman John Warner, R-Va., supported the amendment after it was modified to

was modified to specify that the money would come from a \$25 billion fund within the bill for Iraq and Afghanistan operations or from a future emergency spending bill.

"The Army needs this active-duty strength, We are

strength. We are in agreement, I think, on this point," he said.

Army leaders oppose a permanent increase in troop strength, saying they can do the job with the current force once it is organized more efficiently.

The Army also had a higher cost estimate for the additional troops. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker told reporters this week it costs the Army \$3.6 billion a year to keep 10,000 soldiers trained and equipped, and the Army would struggle if given thousands of extra troops without the money to pay for

44We didn't have enough people on the ground, and now we are paying a very, very heavy price for that incredible mistake on the part of the civilian leadership in the Pentagon of the United States of America. ***

Sen. John McCain R-Ariz.

"Congress can only fund us one year at a time," Schoomaker said Tuesday. "They can encumber us forever. We are very reluctant to be encumbered by more than is necessary."

Earlier this year, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld approved temporarily increasing in the Army's strength by 30,000 more than its congressionally authorized size of 482,400. Army of

ficials have said that was necessary only so the Army could fight in Iraq and Afghanistan and reorganize at the same time.

As originally drafted, the Senate bill would have given the Army the flexibility to add 30,000

troops, but wouldn't have required it to do so.

quired it to do so.

The House version of the defense bill, approved last month, would add 30,000 Army soldiers and 9,000 Marines

over three years.
The White
House criticized
the House provi-

sions. "A mandatory increase would lack fexibility and could leave troop levels higher than needed, especially after several (Defense Department) initiatives to reduce demand on the force have had time to work," it said in a statement Voting against the Reed amendment were Republicans Gordon Smith of Oregon, Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania,

Larry Craig of Idaho and Craig Thomas of Wyoming. Not voting were Sens. John Kerry, D-Mass., and Republicans Robert Bennett of Utah and James Inhofe of Okla-

On another amendment, Senate Republicans defeated a proposal by Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., to roll back some of President Bush's tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans to help pay for the Iraq war.

A similar proposal by Biden was also rejected last year. The 53-44 vote was largely along party lines.

Biden said, "The idea that if we ask the wealthiest Americans among us to contribute to the war effort, the idea that they are unwilling to do that is preposter-

But Finance Committee Chairman Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, said Biden's bill would hurt small businesses. "It's a tax increase during an economic recovery," he said.

Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist said he hopes the overall bill will be ready for final approval Tuesday. The House and Senate language will have to be reconciled before the bill is sent to

MIDEAST NOTEBOOK

Jessica Inigo and Charlie Coon

Karbala weapon buyback a little too popular

Iraqis have more to sell than program can buy

The weapon's buyback program is so popular in Karbala, Iraq, that troops continuously run out of

money.

In fact, Iraqis lined the streets Wednesday with hundreds, if not housands, of munitions and weapons, waiting to get some cash. Unformately, the 66th Military Police Company out of Fort Lewis, Wash, ran out of money the day before. When Iraqis got word that there would be no byback that day, they simply packed up their belongings, as if they were books, instead of mis-

siles, and went home. Though it is illegal for Iraqis to have weapons, MPs are stuck in a Catch-22. They can't arrest or confiscate weapons when there is money because things could become dangerous. Under the program, civilans who bring back weapons will asse who bring back weapons will same who bring back weapons will we will be wi

Troops living in the camps around

Karbala said they use to get mortared almost every day before the buyback. Now, the people of Karbala are saving their rockets for a little dough.

All that dip, no chips

On Camp Lima, the Post Exchange might just be trying to drive some troops crazy. It sells French onion dip, beand dip, cheese dip and salsa, but there are no chips. It sells three different types of cereals, but no bowls or milk. There are different canned mests, jellies and sandwich spreads, but no bread. And the kicker? They sell phone cards, but there are no phones on the camp that accept the cards.

Camp officials say some products simply sell faster than others, leaving odd pieces to what would be a great snack.

Better than NBA, kind of

The last man to start ahead of NBA star David Robinson might be Cmdr. Cliff Maurer, commander of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 74 of Gulfport, Miss., which is deployed to Camp Fallujah in Iraq.

Robinson had a stellar career at Navy, where he was two-time All American, and later with the NBA's San Antonio Spurs, where he was a league MVP and 10-time all-star before retiring last year.

But before all that, Maurer was a senior on the Navy men's basketball team during the 1983-84 season when he started at center ahead of Robinson, who was a freshman.

"David's skills were raw," said Maurer, of Orefield, Pa., adding that Robinson's passion as a youth was for baseball. "His sixth sense of the basketball court wasn't really there yet. But every day he came to practice, he was better than the day before."

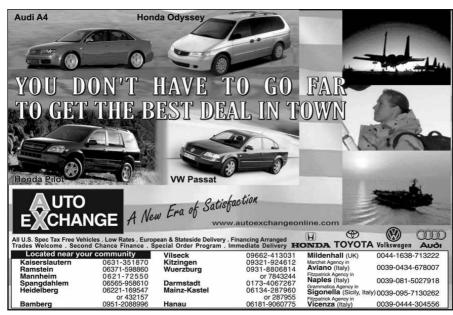
Maurer, who stands "a little over" 6-10, said he used to see Robinson at Navy alumni games in Annapolis, Md., but said the two haven't seen each other in years.

Maurer proudly noted that while called the second of the second of the second of college basketball superstar, the Midshipmen were no slouches without him. They went 18-11 in Maurer's junior year and 24-8 when Maurer was a senior, and Robinson was a still-green freshman averaging 7 points per game.



CHARLIE COON/Stars and Stripe

Cmdr. Cliff Maurer, commander of the Naval Mobile Construction
Battalion 74, was the starting center on the 1983-84 Navy men's
baskethall team ahead of future star David Robinson.



Mortars strike fear in Camp Kalsu Gls

BY RICK SCAVETTA Stars and Stripes

CAMP KALSU, Iraq - It's hard to sleep in a tent that has shrapnel holes in the canvas, especially when you know your buddy died just outside, one soldier recently said

The comment by Cpl. Phillip Haworth, 25, of Fresno, Calif., at a remote camp south of Baghdad, echoes many living on bases throughout Iraq.

"You're up listening. You hear a door

slam and people are running for bunkers, Haworth said. "Nobody's afraid until someone lays right in front of you and dies.'

Insurgents lob mortar rounds and launch rockets at U.S. camps throughout Iraq almost daily. It can happen at any time at any camp. Wednesday, a rocket hit the PX at Balad, killing three troops Even the coali-

tion's headquarters in Baghdad, known as the Green Zone, comes under frequent at-

When Camp Kalsu was struck with more than 40 mortar rounds in five attacks last

month, it was business as usual. But on the afternoon of May 25, hell rained down. That day, insurgents fired nearly a dozen explosive shells on the soldiers' living quarters.

Spc. Daniel Unger, 19, a preacher's son from Exeter, Calif., died a few feet from

Haworth said. That day, Unger was supervising Iraqi workers on base. When the first round struck, he shuffled the local laborers to safety first, his buddies said. The third round landed about 10 yards from where Unger fell, they said. A chunk of metal

ripped through his torso Lying on the ground, Unger cried out Staff Sgt. Nathan Hays and Staff Sgt. John Bustillos ran to him while rounds continued to explode around them. Unger lay on his belly with blood pooling near his armpits, as his face went pale white, Hays

They knew there was little they could do to save their soldier. Still, they checked out

his wounds and tried to comfort Unger "All he said was 'Help me.' " Havs said. "He knew his buddies were with him. He died with people who loved him.'

Two Vermont National Guardsmen. Spc. Alan N. Bean Jr. and Sgt. Kevin F. Sheehan, also died in the attack. They were escorting a team of interrogators to the base and were killed when a round exploded near the entrance to a bunker, said Lt. Col Randall Twitchell, commander of the 95th Military Police Battalion. Four other Vermont troops were seriously wounded, he

"It makes you realize your mortality," Hays said. "That's going through every-one's minds."

The camp, named for football star Bob Kalsu, who was killed in Vietnam, is surrounded by farmland and small villages. Unger's unit, the 1st Battalion, 185th Armor Regiment, a National Guard unit

Friends remember dedicated infantryman

Spc. Daniel Unger's friends described the infantryman as a good kid from a small town in Northern California who never swore and carried a stack of Bibles with him

On his chest, Unger had the word infantry tattooed above crossed rifles, said Cpl. Phillip Haworth

Unger, who was killed May 25 in a mortar attack, turned down a college baseball scholarship to serve in the in-fantry. He joined the Army National Guard at age 17, while still in high school. After one weekend drill with his

unit, they were mobilized for Iraq, Haworth said. "All he wanted to be was infantry, to come here and to fight." Haworth said.

He was always trying to make people laugh, his friends said. They play a video of Unger goofing around in the Kuwaiti desert with an inflated latex glove over his head. They also have footage of him

in pursuit of Iraqi insurgents and firing his machine gun. "I don't want to watch it anymore," Haworth said. "We're just waiting for the next attack."

- Rick Scavetta

from San Bernadino, Calif., became a provisional infantry unit in Iraq. Their job is to protect the tiny base that military police and cavalry use to stage patrols on nearby

supply routes. Ever since the attack, the troops don't feel safe on the base, they said. They would rather be outside the wire on patrol, where at least they can fight back

"Out there you have a chance. In here, there's nothing you can do but wait for your ticket," Haworth said.

It's not just the troops being targeted. Locals who work on base have been murdered, soldiers said. They talk about the "water truck guy" who did not show up for work recently. Fellow Iragis said he was executed for working with Americans, sol-

diers said.

After the attack, the Army dispatched a fire-finding radar to the camp to pinpoint where a mortar round was launched from and thus, locate the insurgents position. So far, troops have had no luck tracking down those responsible for the attacks.

"There's a feeling among the guys - we want to find them," said Sgt. Dan McNasby. "We're pretty torn up.

The enemy has attacked recently with rockets, which the men say are less accurate. Meanwhile, catching those responsible for their friend's death is not easy. Haworth said.

New and used

"You're chasing a ghost." E-mail Rick Scavetta at: scavettar@mail.estrines.osd.mil.

Stars stuff care packages for troops

BY LISA BURGESS Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. - Fort Myer is normally the solemn and sober home of the Army's 3rd U.S. Infantry, the "Old Guard" responsible for ceremonial duties at Arlington National Cemetery

But the historic Army post traded that sedate image for merry-making Thursday, as teams of shouting, singing, cheering ser-vicemembers from all five milibranches raced frantically to stuff 3,000 care packages destined for their counterparts in Irag.

The teams were joined by country music star Lee Greenwood, best known for his hit "God Bless the USA," and former World Wres-Entertainment champion Mick Foley

The first annual "Joint Services Ultimate Stuffing Challenge" synonored by the USO as part of the organization's "Operation Care Package," a project to collect donations from individuals and corporations and buy comfort items for deployed troops

Stuffing parties have been held all over the country, and the USO has shipped over 300,000 care packages to date, according to Elaine Rogers, president of the USO of Metropolitan Washington.

Thursday's stuffing party also served as the Washington launch of a new "Patriotic Country" album released this week by re-

cording label BMG.
The CD is a compilation of music from 18 country music stars. including The Charlie stars, including The Charlie Daniels Band, Randy Travis, Daniels Band, Randy Travis, Hank Williams, Alabama and Martina McBride. A portion of the proceeds from sales of the CD will be donated to the USO.

The CD also includes a new arrange-ment of "God Bless the USA," which Greenwood said he wrote while traveling in his private bus during a concert tour in the early 1980s.

Since 1983, "God Bless the USA" "has been like a roll-er-coaster — it goes up and down in its popularity," depend-ing on whether America is engaged in a war at the time, Greenwood said in a Tues-day telephone interview with Stars and from New York City. Greenwood didn't

his anthem sing Thursday, but he did pitch in and help the Guard team during the stuffing

assembled Thursday

The most coveted items include a 100-minute international telephone calling card; a disposable camera; a desert-camouflage patterned toiletry kit; and a high-tech bandana designed to be soaked in cold water and wrapped around

the neck.
The bandanas are especially useful for wearing under body armor in Iraq's blistering summer heat, Rogers said.

Thursday's sought-after prize was Foley, who in between stints helping the Army team stuff bags, was mobbed by



LISA BURGESS/Stars and Striner

The Patriotic Coun- Mick Foley, three-time World Wrestling Entertry CD was included tainment champion, works the care-package in each care package assembly line at Fort Myer, Va., on Thursday.

servicemembers seeking auto-

servicememners seeking graphs and snapping phota of graphs and snapping phota of the phrase "Tim a big fan" imnore than a few times," the wrestler, whose career stage names have included "Mankind," "Cactus Jack" and 'Dude Love," said he doesn't nind the repetition at all.

In fact, Poley said, he finds it re-

assuring.

"It reminds me that I don't have to go out and find a real job. Foley said.

E-mail Lisa Burgess at: hurgessl@stripes.osd.mil



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MILITARY UPDATE

DOD: SBP reform on shaky ground

late-hour attempt to persuade senators not to join the House in voting to raise military survivor benefits, said the case for doing so has been built on a series of "mistaken assertions."

They also cautioned senators about the cost of enhancing the Survivor Benefit Plan - \$5 billion in defense spending over 10 years and a \$20 billion increase in unfunded liabilities for the military retirement fund

They warned that the "open season" planned for nonenrolled retirees, if benefits are improved, could cause resentment among current SBP participants because the late enrollment penalty would be modest. no more than an extra 4.5 percent added to the current 6.5 percent pre-

Lee Lange, a survivor benefit expert with Military Officers Association of America, said he disagreed with many of the arguments being made to the Senate Armed Services Committee as a floor vote neared.

MOAA, the Fleet Reserve Association and other service groups who advocate phasing out of the sharp drop in SBP payments that occurs at age

62 had pressed for support from Congress arguing three major points:

- SBP participants from the 1970s to early 1980s were not properly briefed on the age-62 reduction when they enrolled. Benefits fall from 55 percent of covered retired
- pay down to as low as 35 percent. ■ All participants are now saddled with a larger share of SBP costs than Congress intended when the pro-
- gram began in 1972 ■ Military SBP is inequitable compared to federal civilian survivor benefits, which don't decline in old age.

Defense officials challenged each of these claims in papers provided to the armed services committee in recent weeks. Dr. David Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, reinforced the department arguments in a letter to committee leaders, sources said.

The DOD effort is aimed at blocking an amendment to the 2005 defense authorization bill (\$ 2400) from Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., that would phase out the age-62 offset by April 2008. The House, in its defense bill, already has approved a nearly identical amendment

"The underpinnings of that [Landrieu] amendment," said Defense officials in a point paper, "rest on a number of mistaken assertions

Taking aim at the claim that SBP enrollees were not briefed on the benefit drop at 62, Defense officials compiled an inch-thick copy of brochures handouts and other informational materials dating back to 1972.

"The original DOD Pamphlet used to inform members of this program ... clearly laid out the potential impact of the age 62 reduction due to So-cial Security," officials said.

But Lange said service associations have heard from hundreds of retirees and survivors who say they weren't briefed on the offset

"Either they have all forgotten or there may be some truth to that," said Lange. "I don't think all these people are making that up

A Senate source said the DOD arguments are persuasive. SBP, he said, is a "system of contracts" that Landrieu's amendment proposes to break

Whether any senator will argue the DOD "facts" in a floor debate, and risk the wrath of tens of thousands of military widows, he could not say.

Comments are welcomed. Write to Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centreville, VA 20120-1111, e-mail milupdate@aol.com or visit: www.militaryupdate.com

Gen. Myers shares Father's Day honor

BY SANDRA JONTZ Stars and Stripes

for

the dis-

tinction.

see it, a

do his

best to

raise

father

"As I

up

ARLINGTON, Va. - CJCS knows best

In addition to being Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, this year Gen. Richard Myers shares with four others the title of "2004 Fathers of the Year," as named by the National Father's Day Com-

Myers was one of roughly 20 men



children

who will be good citizens, good leaders and good parents in their own right," said Myers, father to three grown children and who as two grandchildren. "He also has a responsibility to make the world a better place for his children and grandchildren. It's a tremendous privilege and responsibility, so being recognized as 'Father of the Year' is truly a great honor."

The other top fathers this year are Ellis Marsalis Jr., musician and patriarch of the Marsalis musical family NASCAR driver Richard Petty, NBA star Isiah Thomas, and baseball Hall of Famer Tommy Lasorda.

The five were to be honored Thursday at the 63rd annual awards luncheon in New York City.

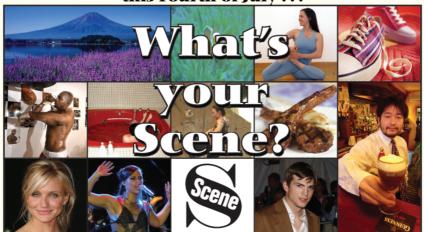
"The criteria is that they have to be active in the community and recommended by either a family member, friend, committee member or past honoree," said committee office associate Joan Reeves.

Myers was nominated by a committee member whose brother serves in the U.S. military, she said

The 17-member National Father's Day Committee is a not-for-profit, noncommercial organization that strives to heighten the meaning and observance of Father's Day, raise funds for philanthropic purposes and present "Fa-ther of the Year" Awards to deserving fathers of high accomplishment in their chosen fields who have also exhibited enormous achievement as parents, according to a news release.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@stripes.osd.mil

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GI gets jail for sex with girlfriend's child

Soldier sentenced to 45 months in prison, reduced to lowest rank, dishonorable discharge

By STEVE LIEWER Stars and Strines

WÜRZBURG, Germany — A married soldier who was carrying on an affair with another soldier in his unit was sentenced Tuesday to 45 months in prison for having sex with the women's 13-year-old daughter.

Pfc. Frederick W. Lopez, 23, of Company A of the 17th Signal Battalion, pleaded guilty to charges of carnal knowledge and sodomy with a minor, said Capt. Sean Condron, acting chief of criminal law for the 1st Infantry Division's

Staff Judge Advocate. He also was reduced to the lowest enlisted rank and will be dishonorably discharged

Court documents reveal an odd relationship between Lopez's family and that of his girlfriend, a married E-4 who served in his unit. Her name is not being revealed to protect her daughter's identity.

The two families lived near each other in the Marshall Heights housing complex in Kitzingen and had been friends since each arrived there two years ago, according to a statement of facts signed by Lopez, his attorney and the prosecutor. Lopez and his wife have two small children; the female soldier — whose husband lives in the United States - has four children, ages 8 to 13.

Late last year, Lopez and his wife decided she and the children would leave their apartment and move back to the States while he stayed in Germany to finish his tour. After the Lopez family had shipped their household goods, the woman agreed to let the family move into her apartment so they could save on hotel bills

Lopez and the woman began a

sexual relationship about a week after his family left on Jan. 31, according to the woman's sworn statement to Army investigators. The girl told police that her relationship with Lopez evolved from a shared interest in Magic cards sex. He gave high-school class ring.

The girl told police the two had sex about 10 times, usually when her mother was on duty and they were caring for the other children. They also used his empty

apartment. The girl said Lopez asked her mother for permission to have

sex with her, but the mother said no. The woman told police she did not suspect they were involved although she had seen them flirting even though one morning she learned he had slept in her daugh-

ter's room the previous night. On March 1, the girl eventually told a neighbor. After hearing Lopez's plea, the

military judge, Col. Stephanie Browne, recommended a prison term of 78 months. It was reduced to 45 months because of a plea agreement between Lopez and prosecutors. Condron said.

E-mail Steve Liewer at: liewers@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Aviano welcomes new wing command

BY KENT HARRIS Stare and Strings

AVIANO AIR BASE Italy -Brig. Gen. Mike Worden gave up command of the 31st Fighter Wing to Brig. Gen. Philip Breedlove at a change of command ceremony Friday.

Worden is headed to the Pentagon to serve as director for operational plans and joint matters and deputy chief of staff for Air and Space Operations for the Air Force

Lt. Gen. Glen Moorhead, the commander of the 16th Air Force joked that the Air Force searches hard to find leaders that can lead airmen in the field, then ships them away

"When the time is exactly right, we bury them up to their necks in paperwork at the Pentagon," he said

Not that Breedlove - who comes to Aviano after a two-year stint as commander of the 56th Fighter Wing at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. — won't have any paners to shuffle himself.

But Moorhead, whose headquarters is also at Aviano, said Breedlove brings necessary skills to the job. He's a command pilot with more than 3,200 flying hours, mostly on the F-16



Lt. Gen. Glen Moorhead III. the 16th Air Force commander, hands the colors of the 31st Fighter Wing to Brig. Gen. Philip Breedlove during the change-of-command ceremony Friday at Aviano Air Base, Italy. Breedlove assumes command of more than 4,000 active-duty personnel at the largest Air Force base in the Mediterranean.

At Luke, he was used to a lot of construction and cleanup - the hase was the first Air Force facility to be removed from the Superfund list during his tenure. Aviano's the site of one of the largest ongoing military construction

projects in the world. "He is certainly not new to the construction that's going on outside the hangar," Moorhead said. And, as commander of a base

(Luke) that turns out hundreds of fighter pilots and crew chiefs each year, Breedlove has already worked with dozens of airmen assigned to Aviano

"I do understand your sacrifices and on behalf of an unknowing America. I thank you for who you are and what you do," he told the airmen assembled

Worden said he was proud of the time he spent at Aviano, pointing out that more than 40 nercent of the wing had been deployed downrange at various points. More than 14,000 Army personnel came through the base on their way to Southwest Asia. And the base has picked up a handful of Air Force and DOD awards for various areas of excellence.

Worden and his wife Laurie have three daughters. Breedlove and his wife, Cindy, also have three children

"The Air Force can take Laurie and I from Aviano," Worden said. "But they can never take Aviano from out of us.

F-mail Kent Harris at

harrisk@mail.estrines.osd.mil

Change of command

Cmdr. Caroline Olinger relieved Cmdr. Donna Vaught as commanding officer of Personnel Support Activity-Europe during a Thursday morning ceremony in Naples, Italy,

PSA-Europe manages 12 detachments in eight countries, which are responsible for all pay



nel issues for military personnel and all official travel for military members and De-

and person-

fense Department CivilOlinger reports to Naples from

San Diego, where she was the officer-in-charge of the naval station's personnel support detach-

rector of the Washington, D.C., Field Support Activity.

Vaught will become deputy di-

From staff reports

Recent medical graduates respond to demand in Iraq

New doctors postpone residency for deployment

BY SANDRA JONTZ

Stare and Strings

Lt. Adnybel Rosario-Ortiz has a secret.

She's likely going to war this summer or fall, and hasn't had the strength or the nerve to tell her father, said the 26-year-old Navy doctor who graduated with a group Friday from their first year of internship following medical school at the Rethesda National Naval Medical Center.

Rosario-Ortiz and about 75 percent of the other 55 Navy medical graduates likely will head overseas to operating units instead of the normal residency path most new doctors take

"This is a huge number," said hospital spokeswoman Corey Schultz. "Normally they go to residencies, or other hospitals as general medical officers, to get a little more on-the-job training. But this class will be going straight to war, so to speak; prac ticing medicine on the ground in Iraq, in the line of fire, with Ma-

They won't deploy in lieu of completing their residencies; they're just postponing the typical next step to respond to medi cal needs of the Navy and Marine Corps. The Marine Corps does not have its own medical staff, and instead embeds Navy doctors, corpsman and nurses

It's neither unusual nor problematic that the doctors are deploying to practice medicine in the field before embarking on residencies, said Dr. Emmanuel Cassimatis, former chief of Medical Education for the Army and now associate dean for Clinical Affairs at the School of Medication, Uniform Services University of Health Sciences

"Historically, there is always a certain percentage who are assigned to service if the field, and the feeling from the services these people are able to practice

medicine as general medical officers," Cassimatis said

"For all of us, the training we get [in med school] is more than adequate," said Lt. David You. 26. an internal medicine intern who will be heading to Okinawa first, and doesn't know yet if he's bound for a combat zone. "Our internships are unique and very broad-based.

The internships include rotations in orthopedics, psycholo-gy, pediatrics, and obstetrics and gynecology, to name some

"And when we're out in the fleet, it's not like we are going to be out there by ourselves, added Lt. Leander Cannick, 27. We'll be able to consult with specialists and have board-certified [doctors] and all those avail-

Joining the military medical profession obviously meant the possibility of going to war, said Lt. Jared Bogler, 30. "Most of us joined the military to ... serve the country, and there's a much greater sense of serving when you're serving with the troops in the field

The exposure of practicing medicine in the field can only make them better doctors, said Lt Farzad Nowmuzzadeh 29 an internal medicine intern who will be heading to Camp Lejeune, N.C., this summer before shipping out.

None of the doctors have received deployment orders yet, they said, and don't know when they might be heading to a combat zone.

"This is a very anxious time for anyone, to see young sol-diers get wounded and come back to a battalion aid station hurt. But in those times ... you rely on training and what has been taught to us here," Nowrouzzadeh said. "But you're always anxious and nervous about going to hot zone, a hot theater.'

E-mail Sandra Jontz at iontzs@stripes.osd.mii



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Armored van leaving Gaeta robbed of \$100,000

Check-writers warned to monitor bank accounts for suspicious activity

Stars and Strines

NAPLES, Italy - Italian carabinieri are investigating the off-base robbery of a Navy-contracted armored van Tuesday af-

About \$100,000 worth of checks, credit card slips, euro, dollars and other monetary items were taken from the Investigatore Guard-Transport Inc. van, said Naples base public affairs officer Lt. Cmdr. Lisa Braun.

The van was on its way from Naval Support Activity Gaeta to the Naples Carney Park golf course when the robbery occurred, she said. There are conflicting reports as to where the van was actually robbed

Carabinieri from the Pozzuoli office responded to the 1 p.m. robbery and are investigating.

The company's vans make frequent runs for the Naples and Gaeta Navy Exchanges, commissary and Morale, Welfare and Recreation departments, according to Naples commander Cant. Dave Frederick in his weekly Panorama newspaper column.

Officials from Investigatore

spond to queries on Friday.

Braun said that some of the sto len items may have had credit card or Social Security numbers

"We want people to be careful and monitor their bank and credit accounts to make sure there is no suspicious activity," she said Braun said people who suspect that their information has been used fraudulently should call their banks

Since Tuesday's robbery, Navy officials have identified whose checks were stolen. MWR has al-

ers and the Navy Exchange and commissary have contacted, or will be contacting, affected pa-

trons

Exchange and commissary officials would like anyone who wrote checks on certain specific days and locations to call them.

Those writing checks at the Gricignano commissary between June 9-13 should contact Arthur Lehman at DSN 625-3895, commercial 081-724-3895, or Robert Colella at DSN 625-3896, commercial 081-724-3895

Those writing checks June

Capodichino Navy Exchange mini-marts should contact Tia Millardo at DSN 625-4927, commercial 081-724-4927

The Navy Federal Credit Union has agreed not to charge stop-check fee for those with affected checks, said Braun.

Braun also recommended individuals who may have had their checks stolen, or personal information compromised, visit the Federal Trade Commission's I.D. theft Web site at:

www.consumer.gov/idtheft

chudyj@mail.estripes.osd.mil



Daddy's home

Above: Tech. Sgt. Michael Kiley, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron, greets his wife, Tracey, and daughter, Kristen, after returning from Iraq on Thursday. Right: Kiley gets reacquainted with daughter Kristen.

More than 100 airmen from the 52nd CES deployed in early March to support Operation Iraqi Freedom

JOSHUA E. COLEMAN



Clinic taking bite out of childhood obesity

Kaiserslautern-area families taught health habits

Doctors

By MARNI MCENTEE

Stars and Stripes

LANDSTIIHL Germany -

school nurses, dieticians and after-school counselors are nibbling away at the obesity problem among Kaiserslautern area On July 13, the second session begins of

a weight-management clinic called the Pediatric Health Intervention Team, said Maj. Bruce Hess, a Landstuhl Regional Medical Center pediatrician. The first six-week program began in February. Eight to 10 families with overweight chil-

dren will attend the second clinic, which was expanded to eight weeks, to teach families how to maintain a healthy diet, develop regular exercise habits, lose weight and keep it off, Hess said. "Kids are getting bigger, vounger,"

Hess said. "Kids know it. Their parents know it. Sometimes they just need additional information like this so it sinks in.

The program is designed to fight a growing health problem among young Americans. A recent study by the American Academy of Pediatrics found that 15 percent of school-age children in the United States are seriously overweight. That's nearly 9 million youths, or three times as many as in 1980

The problem among Department of Defense Dependents Schools kids in the Kaiserslautern area generally mirrors that of stateside children

Clinic members and nurses at five of the 10 area DODDS schools took the heights and weights of 1,900 children. Of those surveved, 17.3 percent were borderline obese and another 13.4 percent were considered obese, according to Lt. Col. Joice Carter, a clinical dietician at the hospital.

Whether a person has a healthy weight is determined by measuring weight in relation to height, which generates a number called the Body Mass Index. The BMI standard for children varies based on age. Hess said.

Childhood obesity can set off a number of other adverse health conditions, such as Type II diabetes, hypertension, low self-esteem and depression, he said.

Hess said the weight management program will be expanded. For example, children at all 10 of the Kaiserslautern area schools will be surveyed in the upcoming year. They initially weren't surveyed because there wasn't enough staff to collect all the data he said

In addition, the second clinic will be broken into age groups: 5-8, 9-13 and 14-18. And the clinic will



tween three and 17 pounds and became less resistant to regular exercise. One motivator of the program was having kids fit into clothes that they couldn't wear before the clinic Each also received a nedometer

Whether the lessons endure is another

to measure their walking mileage.

Hess and Carter said the long months of summer when kids visit relatives who don't cook similar menus, and lack of an eating routine will make it tough.

Staff Sgt. Sheryl Donley said her 13-year-old stepdaughter Chelsea, who was seriously overweight, lost a few pounds. But Donley worries that the momentum she gained during the clinic won't hold up during the summer, when Chelsea moves in with her biological mother in the United States.

"It's just hard to keep her going in the right direction. It's going to be a real challenge," Donley said.

mcenteem@mail.estrines.osd.mil

IN THE WORLD

Al-Qaida claims it beheaded U.S. hostage

State Department awaits confirmation of death

The Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia - The al-Qaida group that kidnapped American Paul Johnson Jr. said in an online statement Friday that it had killed the hostage, and posted three still photographs of his beheaded body.

"In answer to what we promised ... to kill the hostage Paul Marshall (Johnson) after the period is over ... the infidel got his fair treatment. ... Let him taste something of what Muslims have long tasted from Apache helicopter fire and missiles." the statement said

Johnson, 49, worked on targeting and night vision systems for Apache helicopters, and the group had cited his job as one of the reasons he was kidnapped. "We, God willing, will continue our road to fight the enemies of

God " the statement said At press time. Al-Arabiva television said Johnson's body had been found

However, the U.S. Embassy in Rivadh had no immediate comment. "We are working on verifi-cation," the spokesperson said.

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said U.S. officials were confirmation awaiting Johnson's death from Saudi officials. But he condemned the re-ported killing as "an action of barbarism an action that shows. once again, what the world is deal-

Soon after the statement ap-



peared, a number of Web sites that had links to it became inaccessible, with messages saying the it was closed for mainte-

One of the three photographs posted on the site showed a man's head, face toward the camera, being held by a hand. The other

lying prone on a bed, with the sev ered head placed in the small of his back. The face looked like Johnson's.

The beheaded body was clad in a bright orange suit, similar to those issued to suspected Islamic militants imprisoned by the United States at Guantanamo Bay and similar to the suit another American captive, Nicholas Berg, was wearing when he was behead ed in Iraq last month by another group of Islamic militants in-spired by al-Qaida.

To the Americans and whoever is their ally in the infidel and criminal world and their alllies in the war against Islam, this action is punishment to them and a lesson for them to know that whoever steps foot in our country, this decisive action will be his fate," the statement said.

Arab satellite network Al-Arabiya said there was also a video of the beheading

An Internet site often used by

Islamic militant groups linked to al-Qaida displayed a link to Johnson's beheading, but initial efforts to access the video were unsuccessful

In Washington, the State Department said it was unable to immediately confirm the report.

Saudi security forces had led an extensive hunt in the last few days for Johnson and his kidnappers, focusing first on fundamentalist neighborhoods in the capi-tal and expanding their search Friday to mountain caves and farms outside Rivadh

A senior Saudi official in the United States said Thursday night that more than 15,000 Saudi officers had been deployed in the search of Riyadh, going door-to-door in some neighbor-

The U.S. State Department on Thursday updated a 2-month-old travel warning for Saudi Arabia, pointing out that attacks on Americans there have resulted in deaths and injuries and, in a reference to Johnson, a kidnapping.

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Belgium fears worst in pedophile network

BY NAOMI KOPPEL The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium - A day after a jury convicted Belgium's most hated man. Marc Dutroux. of multiple child rape and murder, the country was considering the impact of the trial and the questions it left unanswered.

"It's a small step for justice but a giant leap for Belgium," said a cartoon in the daily Le Soir, featuring the forewoman of the jury standing on the moon reading out the voluminous verdict.

Dutroux was found guilty of three murders and a slew of rapes and abductions. His ex-wife, Michele Martin, was convicted of allowing two 8-year-old girls to starve to death in a base

ment cell at her home, as well as involvement in the abductions. Another man, Michel Lelievre, was convicted for the kidnapping and imprisonment of the girls

and for drug trafficking The fourth defendant, businessman Michel Nihoul, was convicted for trafficking drugs and people into Belgium but was acquit-

ted of involvement in the abduc-All four will be sentenced next

week. "Marc Dutroux could not have

expected any understanding from the jury," the daily De Stan-daard said in an editorial. "The murder verdicts open the door wide for life imprisonment.

But most agreed that the ver-

dict has left much unanswered, especially the question of how wide-spread pedophile activity in the country may be.

Nihoul's acquittal on many of the charges suggests that the jury didn't believe Dutroux's defense claims that he was a small cog in a vast network of child abduction

Dutroux's arrest in 1996 provoked widespread national soul-searching amid fears that the country could be harboring one or more major pedophile net-works with links to the upper ech-

elons of Belgian life. Hundreds of thousands of neople marched to protest slow and inept handling of the case, and millions signed a petition oppos-ing the early release of convicted

sex offenders

EU close to deal on constitution

BY ED JOHNSON The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium - European Union leaders were close Friday to overcoming disputes over power-sharing to clinch a first-ever consti-tution, a success many of them hoped would boost the 25-nation bloc's

credibility in the eyes of a skeptical public.

Dick Roche, Irish minister for European Affairs, said leaders were "tantalizingly close" to a deal on the constitution, six months after their last attempt to agree collapsed in acrimony over voting rules and other

"The atmosphere is very, very positive," he said.

"The issues that are outstanding are those of fine detail," he said, adding all that was left was "final finessing of the endpoints." British Prime Minister Tony Blair's spokesman told The Associated

Press a deal was "nearly there.
"We are still dotting the i's and crossing the t's." he said on custom-

ary condition of anonymity. He said it was unclear whether leaders would now return to the divi-sive task of choosing a European Commission president, or put that off

until a later date. An EU diplomat, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said the leaders had resolved the voting rights dispute, by agreeing that for a

measure to be passed, a majority of countries, plus one, representing 65 percent of the EU's population, must back it.

The diplomat said leaders expected to finish the talks shortly.

During the two day summit, leaders worked on a host of sensitive is sues, notably a new voting system, tax harmonization and even whether to refer to God in the text.

Biotech crops law

BERLIN - German lawmakers Friday approved a measure to protect consumers from accidentally buying genetically modified food, a reaction to the spread of biotech crops in a skeptical Europe.

The law creates a federal register of farmland where genetically modified plants are grown and threatens penalties against farmers who fail to abide by the rules.

Partner rights

PRAGUE, Czech Republic Parliament on Friday gave the Czech gay community a boost by agreeing to discuss a draft law to grant certain legal rights to same-sex partners, of ficials said.

Having turned down similar legislation proposed for de-bate several times in the past, deputies voted 72-49 to allow the draft to go into second read-

From The Associated Press

IN THE STATES

Ray Charles laid to rest in Los Angeles

BY ANTHONY BREZNICAN The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES - With his trademark dark glasses on and a baby grand by his side, Ray Charles was mourned by thou sands who walked a long red carpet past his open casket Thurs-

A final, private ceremony was held for the music legend Friday at the First African Methodist Episcopal Church in Los Ange-

Many of the more than 5,000 neonle who attended Thursday's public viewing for the Grammy-winning musician stopped outside to sign guestbooks or write a message on a large poster of Charles in performance

The music was all Charles, who died last week at 73, singing such favorites as "I Can't Stop Loving You" and "Born to Lose

His initials were spelled out in a giant R and C made from white chrysanthemums and carnations and one of Charles' colorful jackets rested on the empty piano

Stevie Wonder, B.B. King and Willie Nelson were among the stars set to bid the blind musician goodbye at Friday's ceremony. The Rev. Charles Peters, 71, of

Gardena, attended the viewing with a robotic doll of Charles that moves and sings while the hands tap on a small piano.

"He made a lot of people happy," Peters said of Charles, known for the cheerfulness of his songs such as "Georgia On My Mind" and "What'd I Say.

"He was just an outstanding performer, and he was an outstanding individual because he overcame obstacles, when you realize the man was blind since the age of 7. ... I'm here to pay my re-



A photo of music legend Ray Charles is adorned with flowers at his funeral at the First AME Church in Los Angeles, Friday. Charles died last week at 73.

Kerry proposes hiking minimum wage to \$7

By NEDRA PICKLER The Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. - Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry on Friday proposed raising the federal minimum wage to \$7 an hour by 2007, which he contended would benefit working women more than any other group

If a president can go out and fight for four years to provide over a trillion in tax cuts to the wealthiest people in America, we can fight for a few months to raise the minimum wage for the poorest people in America," Kerry told an audience at Northern Virginia Community College. Kerry's proposal, which calls

for phasing in the \$1.85 inse, mirrors Democratic-sponsored plans proposed in House and Senate. dent Bush has supported a federal minimum wage increase, proed that states could opt out and choose not to raise it

Bush campaign spokesman Steve Schmidt said Bush would consider any reasonable, gradual increase but wants to avoid additional costs for small businesses and companies creating jobs. Kerry rejected that argument.

some people stand up and say, 'Oh gosh, don't raise the mini mum wage, that's going to hurt us in this small business.' But you know what? It never has."

Kerry said three of four women who would benefit from boost in the minimum wage, which has not changed from \$5.15 since 1997, would provide a family with enough money to buy 10 months of groceries or pay for eight months of rent, he said Inflation has eroded the value of the last increase in minimum

the increase are adults. Such a

wage, Kerry said. Kerry said Americans are "living with a minimum wage that is lower in value that it's been at any time since 1949 when Harry Truman is president. That's unaccentable

Eileen Appelbaum, a Rutgers University labor economist who supports the proposal, said raising the minimum wage by \$1.85 uld translate into more than \$3,800 a year in additional income for a minimum-wage earn

"If you're down at the bottom of the labor market, an increase of \$3,800 a year can make a real difference to families struggling to put food on the table, strug-gling to pay the rent," Appel-baum said in a conference call organized by the Kerry cam-

Kerry said Thursday that more jobs will be created during the coming months, but "my candidacy is not based on the fact that we've lost a job here or there." He said the campaign will continue based on the need for better health care, educa-tion, environmental protections and foreign policy.

Bush gets boost from McCain

President talks about war in Iraq on campaign stop at Fort Lewis

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By SCOTT LINDLAW The Associated Press

FORT LEWIS, Wash. - Before cheering troops, President Bush got a strong endorsement on Iraq and a boost for his re-election campaign Friday from Sen John McCain, the Arizona Republican courted by Democrat John Kerry to be his run-

McCain offered dire warnings about the threat from terrorists and from Saddam Hussein - words that matched the starkest language Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney have employed. The support from McCain came as the president is trying counter rising questions about the invasion

"Should the enemy acquire for their arsenal the chemical, biological and nuclear weapons they seek, this war [on terrorism] will become an even bigger thing: It will become a fight for survival," McCain told thousands of GIs at the Army base

"That's why your courage is so indispensable to us."

Bush sat just behind McCain on a stage erected in an aircraft hangar basking in the endorsement from his fierce opponent for the 2000 GOP presidential nomination. They seemed determined to project unity heaping praise on each other with ion of the bitter contest.

McCain said of Bush: "He has not wavered in his determination to protect this country and to make the world a better, safer, freer place. You will not yield, nor will he "

McCain said 26 soldiers from this base have died in recent combat; Bush met with some of their families after the speeches, and with wounded GIs

"Many of you will soon return to that just and neces-sary fight" in Iraq and Afghanistan, McCain said, "It's a fight between right and wrong, good and evil - it's no more ambiguous than that."

Irag war.

McCain has criticized Bush on cer-66 Should the enemy tain issues - including tax cuts, the environment and Medicare — and has said more troops are needed in Iraq.But Bush and McCain have sought a broader political detente. cooperating where it benefited both men. Earlier this year, Bush named McCain to the commission investigating intelligence used to justify the

> Interviews with soldiers and their spouses here suggested that while morale is intact, many soldiers have questions about the mission. Some are headed out for second tours of duty in Iraq.

"As a private citizen. I'm happy with what he's doing," said Sgt. Kenneth Krook, a member of the 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, which could be called to Iraq soon. "As a fight for survival.

Desiree Snowden, whose husband is a sergeant at Fort Lewis, said she

Sen. John McCain R-Ariz won't be voting for Bush because she feels he was too quick to deploy troops without a long-term plan. But she still wel-

comed the visit "If he's going to be campaigning in the area, at least take time out for the guys who are fighting the battle for you," she said.

Texas pool under review

FORT WORTH, Texas - The 9-foot-deep garden pool where three children and a father drowned this week was originally designed to be 3 feet deep, a city official said, and an extensive safety review was planned.

Richard Zavala, parks and community services director, said the city will look into the discrepancy in the water depth and also evalu ate whether an emergency pump shut-off valve should be closer to the pool. Powerful suction apparently

pulled the four victims to the bottom of the murky green pool at the Fort Worth Water Gardens on Wednesday, authorities said.

The four, in town from Chicago

for a Sunday school convention, had gone to the public fountains for relief from the heat because their hotel pool was closed.

"This was not the result of someone violating the law and going swimming. This looks as though it was an accident," Police Chief Ralph Mendoza said.

Before Wednesday, visitors were often seen wading, splashing or even taking a dip in the 5.4-acre park, which opened in 1974.

Oken executed

BALTIMORE - On the same day three-time murderer Steven Oken met with his adoptive parents for the last time, Betty Romano placed a wreath at the grave of her daughter Dawn Marie Garvin, one of Oken's victims, to mark the fulfillment of a vow for justice. Oken, 42, was executed for the 1987 rape and murder of Garvin,

20. He also was convicted of killing Patricia Hirt, his wife's sister, and Lori Ward, a motel clerk in Maine. during a 15-day spree.

The execution was Maryland's fourth since the state resumed executions in 1994

From The Associated Press





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Schoomaker prefers to revamp Army

hat we have today is not your father's Army and that's a good thing, because we are living in what Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker calls "the most dangerous time in my memory," and his memory as Army brat and as Army officer goes back half a century and more.

"Our past wars were like having pneu you may end up with some scarring in your lungs but you survived,' Schoomaker told a Defense Writers Group breakfast. "This one (the Global War on

Terror) is like can-Joseph L. Galloway cer. It is never, ever going to go away. It is huge. We face a very challenging future.

Schoomaker, a veteran of many years' service in Special and Forces the super-secret Delta Force who brought out of retirement to run the Army, said: "This war cannot be won

militarily. The gun will not win this one. This is a clash of ideas, an information

The general is a first-class rodeo cowboy roper and the first chief in history to install a metal roping bull behind the chief's official residence, Quarters One at Fort Myer Va He carries a lariat in his nickun and hums along with his favorite country singers, Chris LeDoux and George Strait.

He said Army culture is "very strong" and the service is filled with thoughtful people. "The Cold War - we got that right," he said.

"But 9/11 changed a lot of things." He said that unlike the fairly predictable Soviet-era forces, today's enemies swiftly adapt their tactics and techniques to focus on American vulnerabilities.

Asked if the Army and the U.S. military were really suited for war in Iraq, Schoomaker said: "We are getting more suited by the day. We are learning as we go and this experience is going to be very valuable to the Army in the future. We are advancing the checkers, just not as pretty as we would like

Schoomaker resists those in Congress who say the Army has too few soldiers to fight the war in Iraq and want to increase Army strength permanently by 30,000 to 60,000 soldiers. He said it costs the Army \$3.6 billion per year for 10.000 soldiers just in personnel costs and training.

He said the Army was authorized a temporary increase of 30,000 soldiers through 2007 and he believes this, along with strong efforts to free up soldiers tied down guarding and supporting bases and doing other jobs that could be given over to civil-

ians, should be enough. "Congress can only fund us one year at a time, but they can encumber us forever," Schoomaker said. His fear is that Congress will force a large increase in Army strength and then, down the road, fail to budget the money for them. That would force the Army to raid its research and development and operations and maintenance budgets for the money to pay for soldiers - and begin hollowing out the Army.

He said between the active Army and the Army National Guard and Reserves the United States has more than a million soldiers in uniform. Schoomaker wants to see more of them pulling triggers or driv-ing tanks and Bradleys and doing warrior work, not the kind of jobs any civilian

The Army chief said his decision to can-cel the \$14.6 billion Comanche helicopter program took away the money that would have eventually fielded 121 helicopters based on a 27-year-old design. That money will now buy total rebuilds and upgrades of 1,000 existing Army Black Hawk, Apache and Chinook helicopters. Plus it

will buy 800 new helicopters for the Army National Guard.

Schoomaker's idea of transforming the Army focuses on building the active Army from 33 brigades at present to between 43 and 48 lighter, more capable and more lethal brigades or "units of action." The Army National Guard, which the chief says contains the structure of 36 brigades but not enough people to fill them, will end up with 34 fully resourced, equally capable brigades.

"With that Army, which we think we can build in the footprint of our present strength, we would be able to continue the current level of engagement and employment indefinitely," Schoomaker said. "We have over 1 million in uniform. We just need to use them more effectively.

Pete Schoomaker hopes to get the job done and look back on Washington in his rear-view mirror, humming along while George Strait croons "Amarillo by Morning.

Joseph L. Galloway is the senior military correspondent for Knight Ridder Newspapers and co-author of the national best-seller "We Were Soldiers Once ... and Young."

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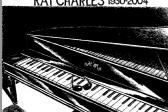
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Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons

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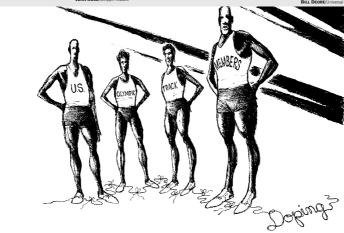
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Community Bank brings debit feature overseas

Cards good on bases; online banking near

Those who have a checking account at Community Bank soon will receive a Visa debit card in the mail, officials said.

The Community Bank Visa Check Card is a first for the institution, which runs branches at military bases abroad. The card works like a normal automatic teller machine and debit card but also allows a person to use it as if it were a Visa

Any vendor that accepts that brand of plastic will accept the debit card, only the money is withdrawn directly from a user's checking account.

Since it's not a credit transaction, there is no loan involved and no interest to pay.

The cards were mailed out in mid-May and should arrive soon, according to a letter sent to cus tomers. Those who do not receive a card within the next few weeks should contact their local Community Bank branch.

Customers' PINs will remain the same as their current ATM cards or can be switched upon receipt of the card.

Some merchants may allow customers to get cash back from the purchase when using the card, ac-

960.84 S&P 500 473.90 S&P MidCap 437.20 Russell 2000 9,227.46 DJ Wilshire 5000

cording to Community Bank's Web site.

The card can be activated at an ATM machine using the current or by performing a

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ica offices in

Texas. Calls

In the Unit-

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the National Consumers League.

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AMEX MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE) MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE) MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

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THURSDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

"Your regu monthly mid-May and checking acshould arrive count statement provides you with a a letter sent to your transactions," the letter read Community Bank officials in Europe referred calls to Bank of Amer-

Community Bank

holds now use debit cards of some form

Last year, the Defense Department negotiated a 10-year conwith Bank of America, which

Community Bank around the world, said Gregory Mor-gan, Community Bank Pacific theater manage The new contract allows for features such as the debit card and online

said More information on the Community Bank program can be found at www.dodcom-

banking, sched-

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munitybank.com. To find more about the new check cards, click on the picture on the right of the page.

Debit cards were merchant terminal. mailed out in

soon, according to customers. Those who do not receive a card within the next few weeks should contact their local

branch.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military r	ates
Euro	\$1.24
British pound	\$1.88
Japanese yen (June 21	107.00
S. Korean won (June 19	9)1.127.00
Commercia	l rates
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.37698
British pound	\$1.8356
Canada (Dollar)	
Denmark (Krone)	
Egypt (Pound)	6.18
Euro	\$1.2047
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7985
Hungary (Forint)	211.90
Iceland (Krona)	72.64
Israel (Shekel)	
Japan (Yen)	109.01
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2947
Norway (Krone)	
Philippines (Peso)	56.43
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7501
Singapore (Dollar)	1.7158
S. Korea (Won)	
Switzerland (Franc)	1.2532
Thailand (Baht)	40.85
Turkey (Lira)	1,494,000
(Military exchange	rates are those

available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the exheritands and the United Kingdom. Whetheriands and the United Kingdom. (Le, purchasing British pounds in Germany, check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are internal rates provided for reference when have a considerable of the Commercial rates are internal rates. The control of the Commercial rates are internal rates are

PRECIOUS METALS

INTEREST RATES

Good will toward Guardsmen



New Orleans philanthropist Pat Taylor give a kiss to 2-month-old Breianna Bordelon as Breianna's mother, Brandi, watches Tuesday in New Orleans. Taylor announced he was contributing money to help bring home Louisiana National Guard troops for July 4 weekend. The Bordelons are the wife and daughter of Bryan Bordelon, a National Guardsman who is stationed at Fort Hood, Texas. Louisiana residents and businesses raised \$175,000 in a week so 3,000 National Guardsmen from around the state could make one final trip home before heading to Iraq for more than a year.



Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco and Mai. Gen. Bennett Landren left, and other soldiers with the 256th Infantry Brigade, in background, are shown before an April news conference at the State Capitol in Baton Rouge. Blanco started the drive to raise enough money to bring the soldiers home for July 4th weekend.

ents and Sensibility Money tip of the day

Lasting e-mail impressions

NEW YORK - Appearances are important when applying for a job, but not everyone remem bers that presenting yourself well goes beyond a new suit and clean hair

When you're initially applying for a job via e-mail, remember that your e-mail address is the first "impression" the employer has of you. If that e-mail address is unprofessional, at best your mail. At worst, it will become a company joke that is passed around as a warning to other prospective employees

If you have an odd-sounding e-mail address, sign up for another account that will be strictly for professional correspondence.

To select a new e-mail address, check free e-mail hosting sites such as www.juno.com, www.hotmail.com www.yahoo.com, to name a few.

-1.06 -.74 -.43 +.12 -.07 -.03 +.25 -.15 +.45 +.12 -.47 -.107 -.74 +9.1 +31.8 +17.4 -4.6 -3.1 +9.8 +16.2 +25.4 +24.1 .5040 33 .75 23 .40 23 .88 20 1.84 23 .80 37 .66 20 ... 42 ... 42 ... 9 28 1.30 35 1.40 18

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EUROPEAN FORECAST

Senelux: Mostly cloudy with rainshowe Highs in the lower 60s and lows in the mid-40s.

Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy with rain-showers and isolated thunderstorms.

Highs in the lower 60s and lows in the upper 40s to lower 50s. Croatia and Bosnia: Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper

France: Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid-40s in the north.

Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the lower 60s in the south. Northern Germany: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid-60s and lows in the mid-40s.

Southern Germany: Cloudy with rainshow ers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid-

to upper 60s and lows in the upper 40s. Hungary: Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 50s.

Northern Italy: Partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 70s to lower 80s and lows in the upper 50s to lower 60s.

Southern Italy: Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 80s and lows in the lower 60s.

vo: Partly cloudy with morning fog Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the pper 50s.

Norway: Cloudy with rainshowers. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the upper 40s.

Portugal, Spain: Mostly cloudy with rainers and isolated thunderstorms in northern Spain. Partly cloudy elsewhere. Highs in the upper 70s to lower 80s on the coast and inland and in the lower 90s in the south. Lows in the upper 50s in the south and inland and lower 60s on the

Turkey: Mostly cloudy with isolated thun-derstorms. Highs in the upper 70s along the north coast and in the 80s inland and in the south. Lows in the upper 40s inland and upper 60s elsewhere.

For current weather watches, warn-ings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAFE Operational Weather Squadron home page at https://ows.sembach.af.mil

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Gay marriage wins

MN NEW YORK MILLS

—A New York man
who argued in favor of
same-sex marriages won
the Great American
Think-Off.

"I feel that same-sex marriages should be allowed because we all benefit when no one is excluded," said Robert Lerose, 44, a writer from Uniondale, N.Y.

In addition, he said, that when gays are allowed to marry "they will only strengthen the bonds between themselves and their communities and that can only be good for our country."

Lerose won the title of America's Greatest Thinker and \$500 when an audience of about 400 chose his argument over three others, including two who argued against gay marriage and another contestant who spoke in favor it.

The Think-Off bills itself as a way for ordinary people to express their opinions on some of life's weightier questions in essays of 750 words or less.

Embassy notification

CHICAGO — The state child welfare agency agreed to notify the Mexican Consulate when it begins any abuse or neglect investigation that involves a Mexican citizen

The agreement was updated in response to cases in which immigrant parents said they lost custody of their children because they didn't understand their rights or investigators' questions, officials said.

Every Hispanic parent contacted by a Department of Children of Family Services investigator will also get bilingual brochures explaining that they have the right to contact consulate attorneys for help.

Calif. kids can't vote

GA SACRAMENTO — California lawmakers rejected a proposed constitutional amendment that would have lowered the voting age.

Under the measure, 17-year-olds turning 18 by the general election would have been allowed to vote in primary elections.

The proposal, by Democratic Assemblyman Gene Mullin, aims to encourage voting among adults ages 18 to 24, who have the lowest voter turnout of all age groups.

The bill fell eight votes shy of gathering the necessary two-thirds majority in the Assembly that would let voters decide the issue.

Only about 16 percent of the youngest eligible voters took part in the last election, Mullin said, calling that a "disturbing and dangerous trend."

"I really do believe that if you get high school students interested, they will register, they will vote and they'll become active participants," said Mullin, who has been a high school government teacher for 32 years.

Record-setting poker

HARTFORD — You can reasonably bet that Larry Olmsted is pretty sick of

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

seven-card stud.

The Vermont native sat at a poker table at Foxwoods Resort Casino at Mashantucket at 1:22 p.m. and remained there for the nex 72 hours, taking occasional bathroom breaks but never leaving the poker

Olmsted's feat was intended to set the record for the longest casino poker session, one that has yet to be certified by Guinness World Records to become official.

"It's not for the girls, and not the money. It's for the glory," Olmsted said.

Under Guinness rules, Olmsted, 38, was required to play almost every hand, except for one 15 minute break every eight hours.

He sat down with \$100 in poker chips and ended with around \$1,000 in winnings, although he gave most of it away in tips to the Foxwoods staff. He played seven-card stud, with a 50 cent ante and a \$1 forced bet with a \$5 max.

TB-exposed teens

ALICE — Up to 150 South Texas high school students were being tested for tuberculosis because they may have been exposed to the airborne disease during a field trip.

The Alice students came in contact with a person with active tuberculosis during an April 30 trip to Fiesta Texas in San Antonio, Texas Department of Health spokesman Doug McBride said



Not his best shot Jacob Vanitvelt, 8, of Grand Blanc, Mich., reacts to missing a putt on the 2nd green at Pierce Park Golf course in Flint, Mich. He was playing on the opening day of the annual Flint Golf Association tournament. last week in the Corpus Christi Caller-Times.

He would not disclose the person's identity but said the exposure did not occur at the park. At last report, no one

At last report, no one had tested positive for the disease, McBride said.

Between 100 and 150 students, eight teachers and several chaperones traveled on three buses to San Antonio, Alice High School principal Amy Koenning said. They spent the night at a San Antonio hotel and returned home on May 1.

Honey, I lost the bees

BOZEMAN — A tractor-trailer overturned on a curve on a highway, spilling its load of hundreds of beehives and unleashing some 9 million angry honey bees.

The bees buzzed furiously as driver Lane Miller, his arm scraped to the bone, struggled to flee his rig after it overturned in Bear Trap Canyon west of Bozeman. The truck slid across the highway before coming to a stop between guardrails.

Miller, 41, walked away from the crash, and two people picked him up and took him to the hospital. Miller underwent surgery on his arm and suffered bruises and about 20 stings.

The state road was closed for 14 hours as crews and beekeepers cleaned up the 512 hives Miller was hauling from Idaho to North

Embezzler to pay

MANASSAS — Lisa Bailey embezzled more than 5109,000 from the Prince William County Soil and Water District, and now she's paying her way out of a prison sentence.

But Baily's bailout is no bribe; the judge is making her pay instead of putting her behind bars.

On Thursday, Judge LeRoy F. Millette sentenced Bailey to two months in jail, which she has already served, and said the district badly needs her \$800 in monthly restitution to meet its payroll.

"I think you're getting off way too easily and if you violate any of the terms of this restitution I'm going to put you back in prison," Millette said.

He ordered Bailey to pay the \$800 a month for nearly 10 years and placed her on probation for 10 years. She could have been sentenced to more than 19 years in prison.

Bailey admitted to forging checks and using district credit cards for personal items while working there in 2003. She pleaded guilty to the charges April 22.

Insurance law costly

DENVER — A change in the state's auto insurance law is costing local hospitals militions of dollars, officials say. Last year, lawmakers seeking to lower auto insurance premiums passed a bill eliminating requirements for personal injury protection. Now care to thousands of accident victims without health insurance who also have no medical coverage from auto insurance.



A SWINGING good time While others wait for their turn, Charlie Rhodes, top, and Brent Blakeney, both 18, drop into the James River in Richmond, Va. About a dozen high school students, some of them recent graduates, gathered at the rope swing to cool off.



100 and counting Visitors walk through the rotunda of the National Museum of Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution, in Washington, D.C. The museum marked its 100th anniversary, and is one of the most popular attractions in the city, featuring a massive elephant called Henry.



Grounded gorilla After spending three months indoors, Fubo, a Western lowland gorilla, is released to the outdoor northern habitat at the Dallas Zoo. The habitat underwent changes including new hot wire and placement of logs to be used as "gerilla speed bumps," after a gorilla at the zoo escaped the habitat March 18. The gorilla, called labari, was killed 40 minutes later by members of the Dallas Police SWAIT Team.



Where is Snoopy? Three Red Baron Squadron fully-restored historic Boeing Stearman biplanes fly in formation above Providence, R.I. The Red Baron Squadron is in town to perform at the Rhode Island National Guard Air Show on Saturday and Sunday.



Road-Weary traveler With Route 21 near Naples, N.Y., still by a rain storm three weeks ago, the highway made a nice place for this turtle to take a nao Thursday.



What a fish story!

Maj. Coy Reid holds an AR-15
semi-automatic rifle at the Catawba
County Sheriffs Department in
Newton, N.C. The weapons were
found by brothers Jason and Justin
Kerbe, ages 16 and 10, when their
fishing line snagged on a rifle in
Lake Norman, which led to a discovery of almost 30 rifles and hand-



Left to right, R.C. Garcia, Miranda Trevizo and Joshua Lindley are sprayed with water as car drives through a puddle after a rain storm in Texico, N.M.

Fish free in Vermont

MAIDSTONE — The state opened its parks, fishing holes, and historic sites last weekend in an annual attempt to show more Vermonters the attractions available close by.

Free fishing was to include a fishing festival for children at the Ed Weed Fish Culture Station in Grand Isle, where children could catch a rainbow trout from a stocked pond.

All of the 46 Vermont state park day areas and the state's 10 historic sites were to be open for free on both days of the weekend.

The state offers the free admission to encourage people to visit the sites, said John Dumville, the

chief of the historic sites.

About 500 people showed up for the fishing festival last year, said John Hall, a spokesman for the Fish and Wildlife Department.

The free fishing day was open to Vermont residents and nonresidents alike.

Wild chickens born free

GA FITZGERALD — Leaders of this south Georgia town are in the midst of a simmering debate as divisive as any in the town's history — wild chickens.

The birds are believed to have descended from red junglefowl that were brought from Southeastern Asia in the 1960s in a failed attempt to provide a pheasantlike game bird for the South. Over the past six years, the population has exploded — well into the hundreds.

Anti-birders want elected leaders to do something about it. Fans of the fowl say the town shouldn't trap chickens but embrace them, maybe even passing an ordinance protecting them.

Both sides presented petitions to the town council.

Youth jail still a mess

HONOLULU — The state has done little to correct acknowledged crowded, unsanitary and abusive conditions at the state's youth prison, the American Civil Liberties Union said in asking Gov. Linda Lingle to take immediate action to alleviate the situation.

In a letter to Lingle, the ACLU of Hawaii also contends the Office of Youth Services has been uncooperative in working with the civil rights group to ease harsh living conditions at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility in Kailua.

Lingle said she would review the ACLU's latest findings with her staff and take action if needed. But she also joined First Deputy

Attorney General Richard T. Bissen in saying the state has cooperated and taken immediate steps to address the concerns raised by the ACLU last August.

Robber takes birds

OSHKOSH — A foul robber has made off with a fowl haul.

Nine birds — including a screech owl that is blind in one eye, three ring-necked pheasants and five quail — were snatched by someone who broke into a local zoo's Wisconsin Native Bird Aviary.

Terry Steele, enrichment coordi-

nator with the Oshkosh Zoological Society, said children he was teaching in a class noticed a hole cut in the wire screening at the aviary Monday morning.

"It's sad that anyone would do such a thing. It just seems malicious to me," Steele said.

cious to me," Steele said.

Two vultures in the aviary were not taken.

It should cost less than \$200 to make repairs and replace the birds, except for the screech owl, said Carrie Hill, a zoo specialist.

Apology leads to arrest

SALT LAKE CITY —
Being able to apologize is a
virtue. But for one alleged thief, it
became the quickest way to jail.

Police say Peter Shelley, 24, punched a convenience store clerk and stole a pack of cigarettes on June 6 after he refused to show the clerk his identification.

But last week, police say Shelley returned to the gas station and apologized to the clerk — twice.

The clerk called police, who caught Shelley in his car near the gas station and arrested him. Shelley was arrested and faces

Shelley was arrested and faces felony strong-armed robbery charges.

Whale recovering

HOUSTON — A whale that beached along the Texas Gulf coast, covered in shark bites and unable to swim, is recovering in an above-ground pool and eating about 30 pounds of fish and squid a day, rescuers said.

The 8-foot-long, 310-pound melon-headed whale, named Memory for the Memorial Day weekend when it was found, could spend up to three months in recovery before being returned to the wild.

Melon-headed whales are deep-water creatures, rarely seen alone or near the Gulf coastline, and marine biologists were trying to determine what caused Memory to end up at High Island.

The volunteer group rescued Memory within two hours, and it was taken to the National Marine Fisheries Service's Galveston laboratory.

Fewer school districts

AR LITTLE ROCK — State education officials said Arkansas will have 52 fewer school districts when classes start this fall.

The districts were eliminated during mergers this spring under a new state law to help address an Arkansas Supreme Court ruling that the state's school system was unconstitutional.

As of July, Arkansas will have 256 school districts, instead of 308 school districts.

Misspending alleged

NEW ORLEANS — The child support division of the Orleans Parish district attorney's office misspent about \$24,000 on holiday parties, birthday cakes, gifts for retirees, alcohol and other items, according to a state audit.

The questioned spending took place during the final two years of District Attorney Harry Connick's tenure. The state constitution prohibits spending public money on holiday parties and gifts for employees.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



AP/CB

Former President Bill Clinton talks to Dan Rather about his upcoming memoir, "My Life," during an interview at his home in Chappaqua, N.Y., on Tuesday. The interview will appear on CBS" "60 Minutes" Sunday evening in the States. The 957-page book hits stores on Tuesday.

'A terrible moral error'

Clinton discusses affair, book in interview on '60 Minutes'

By Madison J. Gray

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Former President Clinton tells CBS' "60 Minutes" that he never considered resigning and is proud he fought efforts to impeach him amid the scandal over his affair with Monica Lewinsky.

"I stood up to it and beat it back," Clinton says of the impeachment process, which he describes as "an abuse of power."

"The whole battle was a badge of honor. I don't see it as a stain, because it was illegitimate."

The interview, to take up the full hour of Sunday's program, is timed to next week's publication of Clinton's memoir, "My Life," which covers his Arkansas childhood, his tenure as that state's governor as well as his presidency.

Clinton sees the Lewinsky affair as "a terrible moral error" whose disclosure to his wife, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, put him "in the doghouse."

"I did something for the worst possible reason. Just because I could," Clinton says of his infidelity. "I think that's just about the most morally indefensible reason anybody could have for doing anything."

On Wednesday, Clinton told an audience of about 1,000 people at a screening of a documentary about his presidency in New York that he became an enemy of right wing America in an attack led by Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth Starr. The film was first shown Tuesday in Little Rock. Ark.

Clinton said Starr was "the instrument of a grand design." The documentary, "The Hunting of the President," portrays Clinton as the target of a political smear campaign. One of the filmmakers, Harry Thomason, is a close friend of Clinton's.

"When the Berlin wall fell, the perpetual right in America, which always needs an enemy, didn't have an enemy any more, so I had to serve as the next best thing," Clinton said.

Making only an indirect reference to his affair with Lewinsky after the film's screening, Clinton referred to it as his "stupid, personal, wrong mistakes."

In the "60 Minutes" interview with CBS News anchor Dan Rather, Clinton said he, his wife and their daughter, Chelsea, dealt with their family crisis through counseling.

"We did it together. We did it individually," he says. "We did family work."

Clinton pronounces his economic plan as his greatest accomplishment of his eight years in office. "I kept score, how many people's lives were better off,"

"I kept score, how many people's lives were better off," he tells Rather. "People actually had the ability to do more things than ever before."

Excerpts from the interview, taped Tuesday at Clinton's home in Chappaqua, N.Y., and last weekend in Arkansas, were released Wednesday. The book, published by Alfred A. Knopf, has a first printing of 1.5 million copies.

AFRTS Television Schedule

odated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFN's Web site at

	SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 2004					
	(AFN-EUROPE)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-PACIFIC)
9:00	Pokemon-Johto League	Endurance (EI)	Nightline	Monster Jam World Fi-	The View	Endurance (EI)
9:30	Kenny the Shark	Good Eats	Army Newswatch	nals		Good Eats
10:00	Lizzie McGuire Scout's Safari (EI)	Entertainment Tonight	Hardball With Chris Matthews	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. (Live)	Local Flavors	Entertainment Tonight
10:30 11:00	Focus on the Force	Headline News	CNN Live	to be Attributibed. (Live)	A makeover Story Airline	Headline News
11:30	Good Eats	ESPNews	Onn Ene		Airline	ESPNews
12:00		My Wife and Kids	The O'Reilly Factor		Trading Spaces "New York: Half Hollow Turn"	My Wife and Kids
12:30	WWE Raw	Half & Half			York: Half Hollow Turn" Everwood "Controlling	Half & Half
13:00	WWE Raw	The West Wing "An Khe"	20/20	SportsCenter	Interest"	The West Wing "An Khe"
14:00	My Wife and Kids	Law & Order "Can I	Today	Baseball Tonight	Strong Medicine "Ad-	Law & Order "Can I
14:30	Half & Half	Get a Witness?"	-	-	missions"	Get a Witness?"
15:00	The West Wing "An Khe"	Headline News	Headline News	Totally NASCAR I. Max	Movie *** "Wit" (2001, Drama) Emma	Headline News
15:30 16:00	Law & Order "Can I		MSNRC Live	I, Max SportsCenter	Thompson, Christopher Lloyd, Eileen Atkins.	Saturday Night Live
16:30	Get a Witness?"		mondo enc	oportoociita	Lloyd, Eileen Atkins.	
17:00	Headline News	Kickin' It Latest in mu-	Wall Street Jrnl		The View	Kickin' It Latest in mu-
17:30	Corps News	sic and trends. ESPNews	America's Black Forum Dateline NBC	SportsCenter		sic and trends. ESPNews
18:00 18:30	SportsCenter	ESPN25: Who's No. 1	Dateline NBC	Golf U.S. Open Cham-	Local Flavors A Makeover Story	ESPN25: Who's No. 1
19:00	Boxing Friday Night	201 1120. 11110 0 110. 1		pionship Third	Airline	201 1420: 11110 0 140: 1
19:30	Fights.	ESPN25: Who's No. 1		Round, From Shin- necock Hills Golf Club	Airline	ESPN25: Who's No. 1
20:00		ESPNews	Headline News	in Southampton, N.Y.	Trading Spaces "New York: Half Hollow Turn"	ESPNews
20:30 21:00	MLB Baseball Region-	ESPNews Headline News	Army Newswatch 20/20	(Live)	Everwood "Controlling	ESPNews Headline News
21:00	al Coverage Boston	Hour of Power			Interest"	Hour of Power
22:00	Red Sox at San Fran- cisco Giants or New	Celebration of Victory	FOX News		Strong Medicine "Ad-	Celebration of Victory
22:30	York Yankees at Los	Coral Ridge Hour	FOY N		missions"	Coral Ridge Hour
23:00	Angeles Dodgers. (Live)	Christopher Closeup Cafe Video	FOX News		Movie *** "Wit" (2001) Emma Thompson.	Christopher Closeup Cafe Video
23:30		Cale video	SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 2	1004	(COOT) ETITIA THOMPOOR	Cale video
00:00	ESPNews	Headline News	Headline News	Golf U.S. Open Champi-	(11:00) Movie ***	Headline News
00:30	ESPNews	Army Newswatch	McLaughlin Group (N)	onship Third Round.	"Wit" (2001, Drama)	Army Newswatch
1:00	Saturday Night Live	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced, (Live)	The Capital Gang	ESPNews	Swamp Critters Harvest: Greg Laurie	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. (Live)
1:30 2:00		to be runiouniced. (Erro)	Washington Week	NASCAR Racing Busch Series - Meijer	Music Word	to be remounded. (cive,
2:30	Kickin' It		Headline News	300. From Kentucký Speedway in Sparta,	Real Videos	
3:00			People in the News	Ky. (Live)	The Simpsons	
3:30 4:00	The Entertainers	ESPNews	CNN Saturday Night	WNBA Basketball	The Bernie Mac Show	ESPNews
4:00	The American Athlete		CNN Saturday Night	Teams to Be An-	Everybody-Raymond The King of Queens	ESPNews
5:00	Headline News	Wishbone (EI)	Dateline International	nounced. (Taped)	Joan of Arcadia	Wishbone (EI)
5:30	Hour of Power	Reading Rainbow (EI)			"Jump"	Arthur (EI)
6:00	Celebration of Victory Coral Ridge Hour	Guinness World Records: Primetime	Larry King Live	Baseball Tonight	Leave It to Beaver The Andy Griffith Show	Rocket Power To Be Announced
6:30 7:00	Christopher Closeup	Home Improvement	CNN Saturday Night	SportsCenter	The Brady Bunch	To be Aminounced
7:30	Cafe Video	The Simpsons		ļ ·	The Cosby Show	SpongeBob
8:00	Wishbone (EI)	MotorWeek	The Beltway Boys	SportsCenter	Touched by an Angel "Song for My Father"	MotorWeek
8:30 9:00	Arthur (EI) Rocket Power	Ebert-Movies WWE SmackDown!	Fox News Watch Headline News	NASCAR Racing	Swamp Critters	Ebert-Movies WWE SmackDown!
9:00	To Be Announced	WWE SINACKDOWN	America's Black Forum	Craftsman Truck Series O'Reilly 200, From	Harvest: Greg Laurie	WWE SINGCEDOWN
10:00	1	Stargate SG-1 "The	Chris Matthews Show	O'Reilly 200. From Memphis Motorsports	Music Word	Stargate SG-1 "The
10:30	SpongeBob	Changeling"	Corps News	Park in Memphis, Tenn.	Real Videos	Changeling"
11:00	Destinations Ebert & Roeper	Headline News ESPNews	Big Story Weekend Edition	(Taped) SportsCenter	The Simpsons The Bernie Mac Show	Headline News ESPNews
11:30 12:00	Headline News	America's Funniest	CNN Presents	Sports Center	Everybody-Raymond	America's Funniest
12:30	Army Newswatch	Home Videos		SportsCenter	The King of Queens	Home Videos
13:00	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. (Live)	Movie * * * "Mrs. Doubtfire" (1993)	Fox and Friends	*	Joan of Arcadia "Jump"	Movie *** "Mrs. Doubtfire" (1993)
13:30 14:00	io de Armouncea. (LIVB)	Robin Williams, Sally	Fox and Friends	Track and Field Nike Pre- fontaine Classic, From Eu-	Leave It to Beaver	Robin Williams, Sally
14:00		Field. An estranged dad poses as a nanny to be	I OA AIIU FIIEIIUS	gene, Ore. (Taped)	The Andy Griffith Show	Field. An estranged dad
15:00	1	with his children.	CBS News Sunday	SportsCenter	The Brady Bunch	poses as a nanny to be with his children.
15:30	Walls O I D	Seinfeld	Morning	0	The Cosby Show	Seinfeld
16:00 16:30	WWE SmackDown!	That '70s Show Entertainment Tonight	Face the Nation	Sports Reporters SportsCenter	Touched by an Angel "Song for My Father"	That '70s Show Entertainment Tonight
16:30	Stargate SG-1 "The	Ltallillent rollight	Headline News	opo. to center	Swamp Critters	Ltallillent forlight
17:30	Changeling"	America's Black Forum	Corps News	SportsCenter	Harvest: Greg Laurie	America's Black Forum
18:00	ESPNews	SportsCenter	Late Edition Prime- time		Music Word	SportsCenter
18:30	ESPNews MLB Baseball Teams	NASCAR Racing Nex-	unie	Golf U.S. Open Cham- pionship Final Round.	Real Videos The Simpsons	NASCAR Racing Nex-
19:00 19:30	to Be Announced. (Live)	Itel Cun Series DHI		From Shinnecock Hills	The Bernie Mac Show	
20:00	` '		FOX News	Golf Club in Southamp- ton, N.Y. (Live)	Everybody-Raymond	400. From Michigan In- ternational Speedway in
20:30		Brooklyn, Mich. (Live)		, (200)	The King of Queens	Brooklyn, Mich. (Live)
21:00			FOX News		Joan of Arcadia "Jump"	'''
21:30 22:00	MLB Baseball Teams		CNN Sunday		Leave It to Beaver	
22:30	to Be Announced. (Live)				The Andy Griffith Show	
23:00]		Meet the Press		The Brady Bunch	
23:30		ESPNews			The Cosby Show	ESPNews



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FACES 'N' PLACES

Stars' clothing on display at airport

Some travelers passing through Atlanta's sprawling airport soon will have some famous duds to gaze at on their way to the gates.



Cowboy boots worn by Alan Jackson, a leather jacket signed by the two members of OutKast and a silk iacket worn by Ray Charles are going on display at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport

The 300-foot-long display will include highlights from the Georgia Music Hall of Fame. The exhibit will be finished within a week and will stay up until July 2005, officials said. The hall of fame, which has strug-

Macon home despite Georgia's rich

music heritage, is hoping a high-profile display at Hartsfield will boost visits.

"Our idea was how to get maximum exposure for the museum." said spokeswoman Jessica Walden-Griner.

Garcia influenced by native country

Andy Garcia says a longing for his native Cuba is the guiding force behind his next movie, which will be filmed in the Dominican Republic starting

nevt week Garcia, 48, was born in Havana but left Cuba with his family when he was 5 for Miami Beach, Fla. Garcia's family left after Fidel Castro's revolution in 1959, and Garcia has been a critic of Castro's communist government.



transition from the rule of dictator Fulgencio Batista to Castro's takeover Garcia's character a cabaret owner, eventually leaves the country to go into exile in New York.

Novelist Guillermo Cabrera Infante, a Cuban exile who is also a critic of Castro, wrote the script for the movie, which Garcia also will direct



A personal ode to Greece

Forty years after providing the musical soul for "Zorba the Greek," Mikis Theodorakis has written a personal ode to Greece



"This is not my story," the 78-year-old composer said Tuesday, announcing a new musical that mixes his works with his well-known political passions. "It's the story of Greece.

The show, "A Life Full of Greece opens next week in Athens as part of the cultural events leading up to the start of the summer Olympics in August.

Theodorakis has set the play hetween 1950 and 1975, turbulent years for Greece framed by the end

of civil war and the return to democracy after the 1967-74 military dictatorship. Theodorakis' music was a rallying point for junta opponents

Celebrities pitch in for fund-raiser

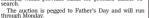
Donald Trump, Don King, Avril Lavigne and Ed Mc-Mahon are among the celebrities offering private lunches, guitar lessons and other items in

an eBay auction to raise money for the Prostate Cancer Foundation.

The highest bidders can play tennis with Trump, spend an afternoon with Arnold Palmer or win an internship at Esquire magazine or ABC radio

Other items include a guitar lesson from Paul Stanley of Kiss, a visit to the set of NBC's "Fear Factor" and lunch with Lavigne.

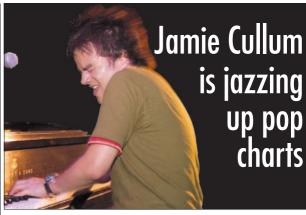
All proceeds will benefit the nonprofit foundation, based in Santa Monica, which provides funds for prostate cancer re-



Photos and stories from The Associated Press



ing young jazz crooners like Peter Cin-cotti or Michael Buble. He shows up



British pianist invades MTV with punk-infused jazz songs

BY CHARLES J. GANS The Associated Press

NEW YORK - MTV rarely covers jazz, but Jamie Cullum is a different story

A recent "You Hear It First" segment on MTV News included an enthusiastic thumbs-up from superproducer Pharrell Williams, who was so blown away by Cullum's jazz version of his hip-hop hit "Frontin' that he pronounced the 24-year-old British singer-pianist "definitely our kind of people

In Britain, the original new talent has enjoyed unexpected, Norah Jones-like success with his major label debut, "Twentysomething." The CD has sold more than 1 million copies since its October release, making Cullum the top-selling British jazz art-ist ever. It was his first release under a million-pound recording deal with Universal

Cullum, who infuses his jazz with punk, heavy metal and hip-hop influences, has now invaded America with a resequenced version of "Twentysomething" (Verve) and a monthlong tour. His CD has climbed to No. 2 on Billboard's contemporary jazz chart, right behind Norah Jones' "Feels Like

While Cullum and Jones both cross genres and generations, Cullum says "the only similarities are the fact that we both play piano and we sing.

Jones is subtle and introverted, a well-schooled musician who blends azz with soul, country, blues and folk Cullum is precocious, extroverted, largely self-taught - and in love with pop music

possible to do everything I want to

citement of his live performances. He is no "scooby-doo" style crooner, but more like "Scrappy Doo" - energetic, feisty, risky, a 5-foot-4 bantamweight with spiky brown hair and the attitude of a punk rocker or hip-hopper.

His music isn't the only thing that sets him apart from retro, suit-wear-



Jamie Cullum, a 24-year-old British singer-pianist, impressed musician Pharrell Williams with his jazz version of Williams' hip-hop hit "Frontin', '

for an interview wearing a T-shirt, paint-speckled blue jeans and scruffy sneakers With vocals mixing the technique of

jazz singers like Harry Connick Jr. and Kurt Elling with the raw, gravelly tone of Kurt Cobain, Cullum shies away from crooning. Cullum opened a May set at Joe's

Pub in Greenwich Village standing on top of the piano as he launched into his opening number. Cole Porter's "I Get a Kick Out Of You." He then stood at the piano, pounding out the melody and slamming the keyboard with his foot to accentuate the word "kick." On "I Could Have Danced All Night," he slapped out the beat on the wooden piano frame and played inside the

He may be shaking up the jazz scene, but in some ways Cullum is a throwback to an older, pre-bebop generation of jazz musicians who saw themselves as entertainers and embraced the popular music of their day

"Jazz used to be about dancing drinking and girls, but the first time I went to a jazz club all I saw were old men and no girls," said Cullum.

"I'm not trying to change jazz," said

Cullum. "I'm just trying to make music that I feel comfortable with ... and that I could relate to as a young

Cullum, who grew up in rural England, comes from a musically in-clined family, but never took to for-mal training. His biggest musical influence has been his brother Ben, a songwriter and dance music producer who now lives near him in London.

As a child Cullium started on piano but switched to guitar because he loved its powerful sound. When he got back to piano as a teenager, he was into loud, percussive boogie-woogie and rock 'n' roll piano.

Cullum, who played in grunge and hip-hop bands as a teenager, says he discovered jazz through the "back

Listening to heavy metal, he found himself drawn to the guitar solos, which led him to jazz instrumental solos. Then he discovered the jazz samples used by hip-hop bands such as A Tribe Called Ouest and Public Enemy. As he got into songwriting, he found his role models such as Bob Dylan and Tom Waits talking about George Gershwin and Porter.

When he was 16, Cullum began immersing himself more in jazz piano, but he didn't think seriously about a musical career until he attended the University of Reading, where he majored in English and film studies.

He earned money playing gigs everywhere from strip clubs to weddings and funerals, and at age 19 used his student loan money record, "Heard It All Before," to sell at shows. He sold his second record, "Pointless Nostalgic," to an independent jazz label, Candid. Its success along with major boost from the popular BBC TV talk show host Michael Parkinson - helped Cullum net his big Universal/Verve deal.

Cullum says he isn't nervous about whether his success in Britain can translate to the American market.

"I think the U.S. audience seems to be responding to the eclecticism of the music quite well," said Cullum. "But my expectations when it comes to record sales are always zero... I just like playing music and I like to devel-

Horoscope

Mercury transits into Cancer, where it will be until the Fourth of July. Cancer is the sign of height ened sensitivity and psychic awareness, and when our planet of communication is there, we can expect to be gifted not only with the power to read between the lines but to read when there are no lines as well. Silence speaks volumes.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY
(June 19). This year brings
outstandingly positive changes in your mind as well as
your body. A new exercise
regimen has you in fine
shape by summer's end. That
healthy glow is so attractive, a Taurus or Leo takes notice and wants al
of your love. Babies may be conceived and other opportunities to

ARIES (March 21-April 19).
You know just what you want and how to get it. The only thing stopping you is the other thing you want. Your desires are in direct competition with one another. Figure out which you

expand may arrive as early as

September.

want more, and give up all things opposing it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

Follow your interest in global issues. Follow your interest in global issues, to could grow to involve more of your time and possibly lead to a new career. Loved ones are more in touch with your needs now and may

as a result.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

When you stop thinking so much and take action, your productivity kicks into high gear. Sure, you're althoughtful intellect, Gemini, but you really don't have to think things through to know the difference

between right and wrong

give you more space and freedom

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The status quo is not enough for you, but it's also frustrating to set your sights beyond your current capabilities. The stars help you lighten up and see life as a step-by-step process. Rome wasn't built in a day.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're feeling quite disciplined, but be careful not to channel all of this into work, or you'll be in a boring mood

for sure! You not only deserve to have fun — you need to do this in order to keep up your pace through next week.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Sure, you can dream big with the best of them. But you're in a conser-

Joyce Jillson

vative mood and will handle practical issues with great efficiency who wouldn't want your help? That's why some of you will get a marriage proposal.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You want to know for sure that you've got friends, but you're not in the mood to make time for them! Sort out your priorities. Don't

say "yes" to one single thing until you've consulted your schedule, your journal and your spouse.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's a financial reward for past actions taken. You're coming to terms with people from your past who teach you both what you want and what you don't want from love. You and a Cancer may sneak away together.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When it comes to making special arrangements and finding ways to satisfy more of the people more of the time, you've got it nailed! Just don't forget to consider your own feelings in the process.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.
19). Others perceive you as being highly capable and therefore seem underwhelmed with your achievements. What do you have to do to get a little support? Know you're achieving for yourself, and provide rewards along the way.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). People around you seem nuts, and you shake your head and thy to stay out of it. Not a bad approach, as you've got better things to do with your time — like invent the next revolutionary product or work for an end to hunger.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

You seem to be the hub of the action, and you've got very positive things to say to people, too. No wonder you'll pick up some new admirers — people who might later ask, "Who was that charming person?"

Creators Syndicate

Peanuts























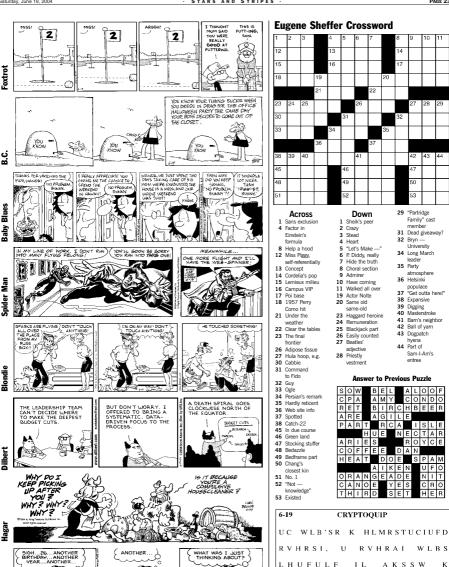








Saturday, June 19, 2004 · STARS AND STRIPES · PAGE 23



MRUDZI Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I BRIEFLY ATTEMPTED PENING A SCISSOR-MANUFACTURING OPENING FACTORY, BUT IT DIDN'T CUT IT. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals R

L C

K

Too much

Friend on drugs needs help ASAP

Dear Abby: My best friend, "Wanda," is in trouble. We're only in sixth grade, and I don't want her to ruin her life. I found out she is doing drugs. I know Wanda needs help, but I don't know where to start

Should I tell her I know? I think the first step to helping her is to get her to admit she has a problem. Am I right? - Concerned Friend in

New Jersey Dear Concerned: Admitting one has a problem is the first step in helping ONESELF. If you try to get her to admit she has a problem, the first thing she will probably

try to do is deny it. Your first step to helping Wanda should be to tell your mother what you have learned. It is important that your friend's mother know what her daughter is doing, so she can have the girl tested and find professional help for her. Do not put it off.

Dear Abby: When parents have been divorced for many vears, is it possible for a bride to have both her father and stepfather walk her down the aisle? This is becoming a bone of contention that no one seems able to solve

- Worried Grandma in Houston

Dear Worried: If the birth father has been absent emotionally and/or financially, and the stepfather has raised the bride, the subject can be sensitive. From my perspec tive, the father who put in the effort should have the honor of walk-

ing her down the aisle
— but not all brides agree with me. Some families compromise: the birth father walks the bride partway down the aisle, and the stepfather takes her the rest of the way (or vice versa). I hope this helps to resolve the dilem-

Dear Abby: I have a boyfriend I like a lot. The problem is my mother won't let me have him over even when they are here. I am very responsible and wouldn't do anything dumb with him. I'm 13, so it would only be to spend some quality time to-

to convince my mom?

gether. Have you any ideas how - Totally Crushed in Colfax.

Dear Totally Crushed: Clip this letter and show it to your mom She may think that you are too young to be interested in boys and believe that if she "just says no," your interest will lessen. Big mistake. Parents who are inflexible force their children to sneak around. They have forgotten that the safest environment is the one that's most closely supervised, and that is at home with an adult

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069, Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at to Abby on the Internet at http://www.uexpress.com/deara Universal Press Syndicate

Unscramble these four Jumbles,

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: (Answers Monday)

Jumbles: LEAFY LOUSY CORNER HEARTH Answer A homemaker is often too busy for this -

HERSELE

Husband should get a job or get out

Dear Annie: I have been married for three years. My husband 'Chip," is a loving man However, I don't understand why he is so irre-sponsible. For the past two years, I have been the sole wage earner. Chip has invested his time and our money into dead-end jobs that don't last long and always put us further into debt

My husband has a degree and is very intelligent. I don't understand his lack of motivation. He thinks every job should make you deliriously happy and refuses to take a position unless it is the job of his dreams. We have lost our home, our debt is out of control, and we are about to lose our car.

I am ready to leave Chin and start over, but I'm worried. He has made comments in the past that he will never give me a divorce and if I try he will keen my dog. Please help.

Lost in Texas Dear Texas: Chip's idea of

Dear Abby

Annie's Mailbox work is not realistic.
We all want the job of our dreams, but until Chip finds it, he still ought to be contribut-

ing to the household. Would Chip be willing to go with you for counseling? You can find free or low-cost referrals through United Way, the YMCA or your place of worship If vou decide vou've

had enough, talk to an attorney about an equitable settlement of the property including the dog. Chip should not be threatening you.

Dear Annie: "B.S." wrote about the problems he encoun tered with his mother's prepaid funeral. You recommended checking with the Better Business Bureau and the National Funeral Directors Association but I wish you had mentioned the Funeral Consumers Alliance (www.funerals.org).

As a consumer advocacy organization, we help people realize that there are better alternatives to prepaying. Our organization has no connection to the funeral indus-try but is made up of volunteers who want to provide accurate consumer information. Please check out the Funeral Consumers Alliance and add this organization to your arsenal of referrals.

 — Isabel Berney, Executive Secretary, Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Virginia Blue Ridge Dear Isabel Berney: Many

thanks for the additional resource Here's more

Dear Annie: I believe that all states have "State Funeral Direct-ing and Embalming Boards" and ing and Embalming Boards," one reason that these boards exist is to protect the public. Your best bet is to contact them with your questions.

Herman E. Elstermeier,
Nebraska Funeral Directing and

Embalming Board Member Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anni mailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndic 5777 W. Century Blvd. Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Family Circus



"See? Sleepin' makes Daddy's whiskers grow."

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incement Type: Special Area of Consideratio ted and qualfied applicants USAREUR WIDE flor expenses will not be paid.

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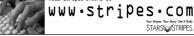
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SCOREBOARD

AFN schedule

(All times Central European. AFN-A: AFN-Atlantic; PAC: AFN-Pacific/Korea; SPT: AFN-Sports; difd: delayed; cut: two-hour or 90-minute cut-down. Listings are latest avail-able from AFRTS and subject to change with-out notice.)

Television

Baseball — Boston at San Francisco, 10 a.m., Saturday (did) SPT; Cincinnati at St. Louis, 1 a.m. Sunday, Pd.; Minnesota at Mil-waukee, 1 p.m. Sunday (did), ARN-A; Cleve-land at Atlanta, 7 p.m. Sunday, ARN-A; Bos-ton at San Francisco, 10 p.m. Sunday, ARN-A; NY, Yankees at Los Angeles, 2 a.m. Monday, NY, Yankees at Nos Angeles, 2 a.m. Monday,

Radio

Kadilo
(Listings are feeds from AFN in California.
ome might not air in all areas)

Baseball — Oakland at Chicago Cubs, 7
m. Saturday; Cincinat at St. Louis, 1 a.m.
miday; Cieyeland at Atlanta, 7 p.m. Sunday;
Liy Yankees at Los Angeles, 2 a.m. Monday,
H.Y. Yankees at Los Angeles, 2 a.m. Monday,
H.Y. Yanker of the mannaria Chicago Chicago
H.Y. Yanker of the mannaria Chicago Chicago
H.Y. Yanker of the mannaria Chicago
H.Y. Y mercial callers from outside Germany must drop the initial zero after dialing country code 0049. AFN-Atlantic's Web site is www.afneurope.net. Click on "television" or www.afneurope.net. Click on "television" or ganization, AFRTS at March Reserve AFR, Callif., can be reached at DSN (312) 348-1319 or commercial (909) 413-2319. Its Web site is www.myafn.net.

Tennis

Eastbourne Championships

Eastbourne Championships
Friday
Friday
A To Form Perk Lathorne, England
Furse: \$585,000 (Fer 1)
Form Purse: \$585,000 (Fer 1)
Form Pu

Nottingham Open

Nottingham Open

At The City of Nottingham Tennis Centre
At The City of Nottingham Tennis Centre
Politicipal Company

Surface (Insas-Outloor

Surface (Insas-Outloor

Taylor Dard Quarterinals

Taylor Dard Green and Aborto Martin, Spain

def. Merk Roowles, Edulanus, and Dand

Edit Contra and Aborto Martin, Spain

def. Merk Roowles, Edulanus, and Dand

Jeff Contra and Aborto Martin, Spain

def. Merk Roowles, Edulanus, and Dand

Jeff Contra and Chris Haggang Count Arti
Pile Contra and Chris Haggang Count Arti
Pile Quarterinals

Ordina Open

Friday
At Autofron
Den Bosch, Netherlands
Purse: Men, \$450,000 (intl.); WTA, \$170,000
(Tiler III)
Surface: MOutdoor
Mounterfinals
Tommy Robredo (4), Spain, def. Fernando
Verdasco (8), Spain, 7-6 (5), 6-2.

Michael Llodra, France, def, Raemon Sluiter, Netherlands, 6-7, 77, 7-8 (b), 6-3.

Seminals, 5-7, 77, 7-8 (b), 6-3.

Seminals, 5-7, 77, 7-8 (c), 6-3.

Michael Medina Garriques, Spain, 7-5, 3-7 erlired. Thursday

Mario Ancio, Croatia, def, 19 andreev, Russia, 6-3, 6-1, 18.

Mario Ancio, Croatia, def, 19 andreev, Russia, 6-3, 6-1, 18.

Mario Ancio, Croatia, def, 19 andreev, Russia, 6-3, 6-1, 18.

Mario Ancio, Croatia, def, 19 andreev, 19-8 (c), 19-8 (c),

bara Schett, Austria, 6-4, 6-2. Mary Pierce (3), France (3), def. Anne Krem-er, Luxembourg, 6-4, 6-2.

Pro basketball

WNBA



an Antonio 60 Minnesota 50 Washington 76, San Antonio 60 Washington 76, San Antonio 60 Charlotte at Product Seattle at Hoston Saturday's games Saturday's games

Saturday's game.

Detroit at Sacramento
Houston at Minnesota
New York at Indiana
Seattle at San Antonio
Sunday's games

Soccer Major League Soccer

Eastern Conference						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	4	3	4	16	14	11
Columbus	4	3	3	15	11	11
MetroStars		3	4	13	16	19
D.C. United	3	5	4	13	12	17
New England	2	6	3	9	12	18
Western Co	nfe	ren	ce			
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	6	3	3	21	26	19
Kansas City	5	4	3	18	14	11
San Jose	4	3	3	15	19	15
Dallas	4	4	2	14	12	13
Colorado	2	3	5	11	6	8

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie. or tie. Saturday's game
Los Angeles at MetroStars
Columbus at D.C. United
Kansas City at New England
San lose at Chicago

Columbus at D.C. United Kansas City at New England San Jose at Chicago Dallas at Colorado **Wednesday, June 23** MetroStars at Los Angeles

U.S. National Team schedule

(Won 4, Lost 1, Tied 2) Jan. 18 — United States 1, Den-Wednesday, Feb. 18 — Netherlands 1, Unit-ed States 0 Saturday, March 13 — United States 1, iti 1, tie e sdav. March 31 – United States 1. dnesday, April 28 - United States 1, Poland 0 Wedne) esday, June 2 — United States 4. Honinday, June 13 - United States 3,

Grenada 0 a-Sunday, June 20 — vs. Grenada at St. George's, Grenada Sunday, July 11 — vs. Poland at Chicago b-Wednesday, Aug. 18 — at Jamaica or

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YOUR TIVO REMOTE AT THE FIELD AND SEE IF THIS SKIPS THROUGH THE COMMERCIALS THEY SHOW ON THE SCOREBOARD BETWEEN INNINGS.

TANK McNamara

b-Saturday, Sept. 4 — vs. El Salvador or Ber-muda at Foxboro, Mass. b-Wednesday, Sept. 8 — at Panama or St. Lucia

b-Sunday, Oct. 10 — at El Salvador or Bernuda b-Wednesday, Oct. 13 — vs. Panama or St. b-Wednesday, Nov. 17 — vs. Jamaica or laiti at Columbus, Ohio

a-World Cup qualifier b-if U.S. advances to semifinals of World up qualifying

College baseball

College World Series

At Rosenhaist Stadium
Oralia, Neb.
Double Elimination
Friday, June 18
Bracket 1
Game 1 - Arizona (35-25-1) vs. Georgia
(43-21)
Game 2 - Texas (55-13) vs. Arkansas
(45-22)

Saturday, June 19 Bracket 2 South Carolina (50-15) vs. Cal Sunday, June 20 Game 5 — Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 2 Game 6 — Winner Game 1 vs. Winner

Monday, June 21
Game 7 — Loser Game 3 vs. Loser Game 4
Game 8 — Winner Game 3 vs. Winner
Game 4

Pro hockey

NHL Draft order

Saturday, June 26 At RBC Center, Raleigh, N.C.

3. Chicago Phoenix New York Rangers Florida Carolina Anaheim O. Atlanta L. Los Angeles 12. Minnesota 13. Buffalo 14. Edmonton 15. Nashville 16. NY Islanders

17. St. Louis 18. Montrea 19. Calgary 20. Dallas 21. Colorado

21. Colorado
22. New Jersey
23. Ottawa
24. NY Rangers (from Toronto)
25. Edmonton (from Philadelphia)
26. Vancouver
27. Washington (from Boston) . Edmonton (from Philadelphia) . Vancouver . Washington (from Boston) . San Jose . x-Detroit (optional to Washington) . Tampa Bay

x-Washington has the option of taking this pick or Defroit's second-round pick in the 2005 Entry Praft

Auto racing

Nextel Cup schedule

15 — Daytona 500, Daytona Beach, Fla Earnhardt Jr.) (Dale Earnhardt Jr.) Feb. 22 — Subway 400, Rockingham, N.C.

Feb. 22 — SUDWay WU, INCENTIFED TO THE MATE KEEPER AND "Daimler Chrysler 400, Las Wegas (Matt Kenseth) March 14 — Golden Corral 500, Hampton, Ga. (Dale Earnhardt Ir.) March 14 — Carolina Dodge Dealers 400, Darlington, S.C. (Jimmie Johnson) Corral 500, Hampton, S.C. (Jimmie Johnson) Corral Succession (March 21 — Food City 500, Bristol, Tenn. Worth Busch) — Food City 500, Bristol, Tenn.

March 28 — Food City 500, Bristol, Tenn. (Kurt Busch) April 4 — Samsung/RadioShack 500, Fort Worth, Texas (Elliott Sadler) April 18 — Advance Auto Parts 500, Martin-sville, Va. (Rusty Wallace) April 25 — Aaron's 499, Talladega, Ala. (Jeff

ordon) May 2 — Auto Club 500, Fontana, Calif. (Jeff ordon)
May 15 — Chevy American Revolution 400, ichmond, Va. (Dale Earnhardt Jr.)
May 30 — Coca-Cola 600, Concord, N.C. immle Johnson)

(Jimmie Johnson)
June 6 — MBNA America 400, Dover, Del.
(Mark Martin)
June 13 — Pocono 500, Long Pond, Pa. (Jimmie Johnson)
June 20 — DHL 400, Brooklyn, Mich.

June 27 — Dodge/Save Mart 350, Sonoma, Calif. July 3 — Pepsi 400, Daytona Beach, Fla. July 11 — Tropicana 400, Joliet, III. July 25 — New England 300, Loudon, N.H. Aug. 1 — Pennsylvania 500, Long Pond Aug. 8 — Brickyard 400, Indianapolis Aug. 15 — Sirlus at The Glen, Watkins Glen,

Aug. 15 - Sirrus at 106 Section 1. N.Y.

Aug. 22 - Michigan 400, Brooklyn

Aug. 28 - Sharple 500, Bristol, Tenn.

Sept. 5 - Pop Secret 500, Fontana, C.

Sept. 11 - Chevrolet Monte Carlo 400

Sept. 11 — Chevrolet Monte Carlo 400, No. nond, Va. Sept. 19 — Sylvania 300, Loudon, N.H. Sept. 26 — MBNA America 400, Dover, Del Oct. 3 — EA Sports 500, Talladega, Ala. Oct. 10 — Banquet 400, Kansas City, Kan. Oct. 15 — UAW-GM Quality 500, Concon

Oct. 24 — Subway 500, Martinsville, Va. Oct. 31 — Bass Pro Shops MBNA 400, Ha Ga. ov. 7 - Checker Auto Parts 500, Avon-

Nov. 7. — Checker Auto Parts 500, Avor Nov. 14. — Southern 500, Darlington, S.C. Nov. 21. — Ford 600, Homgeted, Fla. 1. Dale Earnhard fr. 2, 11.3 2. Jimmie Johnson, 2055 2. Jimmie Johnson, 2055 2. Jimmie Johnson, 2055 3. Jimmie Johnson, 2055 3. Jimmie Johnson, 2055 5. Bobby Laborite, 1,312 5. Robin Harvick, 1,313 5. Robin Harvick, 1,757 13. Jimmie McMurray, 1,672 13. Jimmie McMurray, 1,670 14. Mark Martin, 1,511

14. Mark Martin, 1,581

19. Terry Labonte, 1,469 20. Sterling Marlin, 1,432

Deals

Thursday's transactions RASERALI

BASEBALL

ANAMEM AND CONTROL STATES AND CONTROL STA

r. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Signed RHP Donnie ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Signed RHP Donnie Smith, 2B Jarrett Hoffpauir, SS Matthew Shepherd, RHP Michael Parisl and OF Simon Williams and assigned them to New Jersey of the New York-Penn League. BASKETBALSOCATION National Basketball Association CHARLOTTE BOBCATS—Named Dell Curry

director of player programs.

NEW ORLEANS HORNETS—Named Allan
Bristow general manager

Bristow general manager.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
CAROLINA PANTHERS—Signed OB Jake DelIOMITHE TO THE STATE OF T

2007.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS—Signed P Donnie
Jones and LB Byron Hardmon.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

COLORADO AVALANCHE—Re-Signed F
Steve Konowalchuk to a three-year con-

act.
FLORIDA PANTHERS—Named Steve Ludzik
oach of San Antonio of the AHL.
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Exercised their
004-05 contract option on G Nikolai Khabibu-

COLLEGE

CALIFORNIA—Announced sophomor MINNESOTA STATE-MANKATO—Named eff Jamrog football coach. SETON HALL—Announced junior men's asketball F Stan Gaines transferred from

MULAR/HUDS

ì.

.

average.

Konowalchuk to a three-year contract Thursday. Konowalchuk

from the Washington Capitals last October. He played in 82 games, including 76 with the Avalanche, collecting 19 goals and 21 assists for 40 points. It was his third-high-est single-season goal total and fifth-highest point total.

come an unrestricted free agent July 1.

Steve played extremely well for us last season, but on top of that he is a true leader and warrior on the ice," Avalanche President and General Manager

Hasek won't play for Wings

PRAGUE, Czech Republic -Goaltender Dominik Hasek won't play for the Detroit Red Wings next season. Hasek said Ottawa is one of the

teams he would be interested in joining, and added he wants to be on a club that has a chance to win the Stanley Cup. The decision should be taken

... no later than the beginning of July," he said in Thursday's NHL edition of the Sport daily. "At the mo-

can



that I won't be in Detroit next season A call from The Associated Press to Hasek's agent, Rich Win-

ter, wasn't returned The 39-year-old Hasek underwent groin surgery in Prague in April, and went to recover in his

hometown of Pardubice, 60 miles east of Prague.
"I feel good, very good," Hasek

Hasek came out of a one-year retirement last season to rejoin the Red Wings, but the groin injury limited him to just 14 games.

Hasek joined the Red Wings be-fore the 2001-02 season, winning his first Stanley Cup that season. He retired in 2002, but came back to Detroit before last season.

Lightning pick up option on goaltender Khabibulin

TAMPA, Fla. — The Tampa Bay Lightning picked up the \$6.5 million option to bring back goal-tender Nikolai Khabibulin, who helped them win their first Stanlev Cup title

Khabibulin tied for the league lead with five shutouts and posted a 1.71 goals-against average in the 2004 playoffs.

"Nik's performance throughout our Stanley Cup run only rein-forced how valuable he is to our

hockey club," General Manager Jay Feaster said Thursday.
The native of Russia was
28-19-7 this season with three shutouts and a 2.33 goals-against

Avs re-sign Konowalchuk

DENVER - The Colorado Avalanche re-signed forward Steve was acquired

Terms of his new contract were not disclosed. He could have be-

Pierre Lacroix said. Konowalchuk said he enjoyed

his first season in Colorado, which ended with a second-round playoff loss to San Jose.

West stavs in draft as others opt for college

Two of the Southeastern Conference's top players, All-American Lawrence Roberts of Mississippi State and Brandon Bass of LSU, pulled out of the NBA Draft on Thursday and will return to their schools next season.

Saint Joseph's guard Delonte West, meanwhile, will skip his senior season and remain in the June 24 draft, despite not being projected as a first-round pick. Only players selected in the first round get guaranteed contracts.

Charlotte center Martin Iti and Washington guard Nate Robinson also withdrew their names from consideration before the Thursday afternoon deadline.

Roberts, the SEC's player of the year, said there were "too many unanswered questions" after he participated in last week's NBA predraft camp.

"Any time you have a situation like that, the best remedy is to answer the questions people have in their heads," Roberts told ESP-"That's going back to school, and proving I'm a higher pick than people might think.

Bass was the SEC's freshman of the year, averaging 12.8 points and 7.4 rebounds a game. After the camp, Bass also worked out for the Boston Celtics, Indianapolis Pacers and San Antonio Spurs.

"I learned what I need to improve on and I got a feel for what my strengths are." Bass said. "It was a tough decision, but I feel good about it.

West, an honorable mention All-American last season, played well during the predraft camp in Chicago while battling through a sprained right foot. He averaged 18.9 points and 5.4 rebounds for Saint Joseph's

High school star Al Jefferson, a possible lottery pick, is staying in the draft pool but won't sign with



Delonte West decided to stay in the NBA Draft instead of returning to Saint Joseph's despite not being projected as a first-round pick.

an agent, leaving open the possi-bility that he could play college ball for Arkansas

The forward averaged 42.6 points, 18 rebounds and seven blocks during his senior season at Prentiss (Miss.) High School.

Iti declared for the draft in May and participated in the predraft camp but didn't sign with an agent. The 7-foot player from Australia averaged 6.0 points and 4.7 rebounds per game and made Conference USA's all-freshman

Robinson was a key member of the Huskies, who went 19-12 last season and reached the NCAA tournament. He averaged 13.2 points, 3.9 rebounds, 2.7 assists and 1.7 steals as a sophomore.

"I'm going to take Husky bas ketball back to where it needs to be, back to a winning program like we did last year, and even better." Robinson said.

NBA Draft order Thursday, June 24

- 1. Orlando 2. L.A. Clippers 3. Chicago 4. Charlotte Bobcats (expansion)

- 10. Cleveland 11. Golden State 12. Seattle 13. Portland
- 14. Utah 15. Boston 16. Utah (from New York through Phoe
- 17. Atlanta (from Milwaukee through lenver and Detroit)
- 18. New Orleans 19. Miami 20. Denver
- 21. Utah (from Houston) 22. New Jersey 23. Portland (from Memphis)

Hamilton, Wallace invited to Olympics

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. - Ben ace and Richard Hamilton o the NBA champion Detroit Pistons have been asked to play for the U.S. Olympic team in Ather Both said Thursday they had vet to respond to the invitation.

I haven't really thought about it," Hamilton said after a daylong celebration with fans. "I'll probably take a couple days to think

about it. Wallace said essentially the same thing. But earlier this month, he seemed to be sure of his intentions.

"They asked me if I would say 'Yes' to playing on the team, and I said, 'Yes,' " Wallace said on June "I don't know if they have decided what to do because they haven't announced it yet."

Wallace is a two-time Defensive Player of the Year. He was on the All-NRA second team and Eastern Conference team for a second straight time this season. Wallace averaged 10.3 points, 14.3 rebounds and 2.4 blocks for the Pistons in the post

Hamilton is among the best players in the NBA without an All-Star appearance. He led Detroit in scoring at 21.5 points a game, five more than any of his teammates, in 23 playoff games. The USA Basketball selection

committee has had to scramble to fill its 12-player roster for Athens because many stars opted against playing in the Olympics

McGrady, Magic owner to meet ORLANDO, Fla. — Magic owner Rich DeVos is preparing to

make his best pitch to get Tracy McGrady to stay in Orlando.

DeVos, the salesman who built e Amway empire, wants the NBA's leading scorer to know that the team is committed to becoming a winner again — and that he'd like McGrady to be part of that future.

McGrady, whose seven-year, \$93 million contract runs through the 2006-07 season, can opt out of the deal after next season.



Magic officials want to know if McGrady wants to be part of rebuilding a team that finished with a league-worst 21-61 record last season. If he doesn't, they'll look to trade him DeVos and the Magic have at

least a couple things going for them as they start to rebuild. Orlando owns the No. 1 pick in next week's draft and off-injured Grant Hill is healthy and hoping to take another crack at a come

If that's not enough to persuade McGrady to stay, the Magic will look to restock their roster by moving him

Milicic undergoes surgery, could miss Olympics

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. Darko Milicic broke his right hand in a token appearance in the Detroit Pistons' NRA title clincher, an injury that could jeopardize his chances of playing for Serbia in the Olympics. The second overall pick in the

NBA Draft was hurt at the end of the fifth and final game of the NBA Finals.

The 7-footer, who will turn 19 n Sunday, had surgery on the hand Wednesday, Detroit presi-dent of basketball operations Joe

The team said he is expected to miss eight weeks

Hornets promote Bristow to GM

NEW ORLEANS — The New Orleans Hornets selected Allan Bristow to replace Bob Bass as general manager on Thursday.

Bristow, a former Hornets coach, was an assistant to Bass last season. Bass announced two months ago that he would retire after the NBA Draft June 24.

Bristow will handle the team's day-to-day basketball operations and oversee player personnel de-

Pistons seemed to have paved new path for NBA ing the Pistons to even he in a nosition to

BY LARRY LAGE

The Associated Press

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. - Larry Brown said he could get used to having his season drag into June

The NBA might have to get used to his Detroit Pistons, or at least their formula for success. Detroit proved a true team could rule a

league that seems to think it's not possible to win without a superstar. The Pistons had only one All-Star this season, and it was Ben Wallace, who didn't

average 10 points a game. Chauncey Billups was the MVP of the NBA Finals, but an argument could be made that his four fellow starters deserved

■ Wallace for his tenacious defense, re lentless rebounding and surprising scor-

the award:

■ The other Wallace, Rasheed, for allow-

face - and beat - the star-studded Los Angeles Lakers ■ Richard Hamilton, for leading the

team in scoring in the finals. ■ Tayshaun Prince, for stifling Kobe Bry-

ant with his long-armed defense "I won the MVP award, but it belongs to all of us," Billups said. "I think we've made

the new blueprint for winning. It's all about personalities and chemistry and finding the right mix of players." Former Pistons star Joe Dumars, presi-

dent of basketball operations, built a team that fans across the state fell for And they showed their love Thursday.

After a throng lined Jefferson Ave. for a parade, and more squeezed into Hart Plaza for a rally, the celebration went to The Pal-

A sign outside one entrance read "Sold Out" as hundreds of cars couldn't even get into the sprawling parking lot.

Inside 22 076 seats were filled and the aisles had more fans sitting and standing. Flashbulbs went off almost constantly as players, coaches and executives spoke

from a stage in the middle of the court. When a few addressed the crowd, it was so loud at times that they couldn't be heard.

It was really boisterous after Billups shouted: "Carmelo Who? Carmelo Who? in reference to the team drafting Darko Milicic instead of Carmelo Anthony

An ear-ringing cheer welcomed Ben Wallace, the fan favorite of a popular team.

"We've got the recipe figured out - now we just need to keep everything together. Wallace said.

Dumars' No. 1 priority is to re-sign Rasheed Wallace, an unrestricted free At Hart Plaza, the crowd chanted: "We

want Sheed! We want Sheed!" and at The

Palace, he drew one of many screaming, standing ovations.

"I love all of v'all." said Wallace, who repeatedly has declined to talk about his nlans

His agent, Bill Strickland, would not tip his hand about his client's plans, but did re veal what Wallace is looking for. "He's always told me that he wanted to

be part of a veteran team that had a chance to win," Strickland said.

Speculation had started that the 63-year-old Brown, celebrating the first NBA title of his Hall of Fame career, might retire after coaching in the Athens Olym-

pics.
"I'd like to be back," Brown said. "There's a lot of guys that made a lot of sacrifices for me, and hopefully I'd like to do the same for him." When reporters told Brown he wasn't

being clear, he said there was "no doubt he would return for the second year of his five-year deal

Major League Baseball scoreboard

American League East Division	Texas IP H RER BB SO	E-OHudson (7), Speier (1). DP-San Fran- cisco 1. LOB-Toronto 7, San Francisco 10. 28-HClark (5), Catalanotto 2 (16), Alfonzo (13). 38-Tucker (3). SB-Johnson (3). SF-HClark	E-Blake (9), Zeile (9). DP-Cleveland 1, New York 2. LOB-Cleveland 3, New York 5. 2B-Lawton (10). THafner 2 (23), Floyd (10).	Cardinals 5, Athletics 4
New York 42 22 .656 —	Drese L.3-4 6 ¹ / ₂ 7 4 3 3 0 BShouse 1 ¹ / ₂ 0 0 0 1 3 Brocall 1/ ₂ 1 0 0 0 1 Cincinnati Poppel W.3-2 7 6 3 3 1 3	Toronto IP H RER BB SO	HR-Cameron (8). SB-Gerut (9), Matsul (10), Cameron (11). P	Byrnes If 4 2 1 0 MAndn 2b 40 0 1 McLmr 3b 41 2 1 Cedeno rf 2 0 0 0 Kotsay cf 5 0 0 0 Eldred p 0 0 0 0 Dye rf 3 1 2 2 Wmack ph 0 0 0 0 1
Central Division 28 38 .424 15	Circinata 7 6 3 3 1 3 1 3 1 10 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	Chulk 1/3 1 0 0 1 1 Adams 1/1 0 0 0 1 0 Speier L,1-4 2 4 3 3 2 1 San Francisco	RiWhite L,3-2 1 1 1 1 0 0 Betancourt 1/3 1 1 1 1 1 Bartosh 1/3 0 0 0 0 1	Httberg 1b 4 0 2 0 Stochi p 0 0 0 0
Cleve(and 31 33 .484 51/2 Detroit 31 34 .477 6	Royals 10, Braves 4 KANSAS CITY abrhbi Griffono 2h 5 1 2 0 Europles 5 2 1 0	Hermanson 5 10 5 5 2 5 WFranklin 1 0 0 0 0 2 Brower W.4-3 2 0 0 0 1 1 Herges S.18 1 0 0 0 0 0 T -2:50. A -40,464 (41,584).	New York Seo 4 2 0 0 0 6 Rottalico W 3-1 11/2 0 0 0 1 2	Thudsn p 3 0 0 0 Rolen 3b 4 1 1 0 RRincn p 0 0 0 0 Edmnd cf 3 0 1 1 Rrdford p 0 0 0 0 Mahry lf 3 0 2 0
Oakland 37 27 .578 — Anaheim 36 29 .554 1½ Texas 34 29 .540 26	Grifinno 2b 5 1 2 0 Furcal ss 5 2 1 0 Beltran cf 3 2 2 2 NGreen 2b 4 0 2 1 Randa 3b 5 2 1 2 1 Drew rf 3 0 1 1 Grmsly p 0 0 0 0 Clones 3b 4 0 0 0 Seanez p 0 0 0 0 AJones cf 4 0 2 0	Pirates 5, Angels 2	JoFranco 1 ² / ₅ 0 0 0 0 1 Stanton 1 1 0 0 0 1 Looper 1 2 2 1 0 0 T-2:36, A-17,675 (57,405).	Kleity ph 1 0 0 0 Luna 2 b 1 0 0 0 Mecir p 0 0 0 0 Reteria ss 4 1 1 0 McKayc 4 0 2 0 Mrquis pr 0 1 0 0 0 Suppan 0 1 0 0 0 Suppan 1 0 0 0 Totals 36 4 9 3 Total 3 33 5 11 4
Seattle 26 38 .406 11 Thursday's interleague games Cincinnati 4, Texas 3 Kansas City 10, Atlanta 4	Riaford rf 5 3 3 3 EddPrz c 4 0 1 0 Stinnett c 5 0 2 1 Heema 1b 4 1 1 1	Figgins 3b 4 0 0 0 Kendall c 3 0 1 0 AKndy 2b 4 0 1 0 JWilsn ss 4 1 2 1	Marlins 2, White Sox 1 (11)	St Louis 000 000-4
Thursday's interleague games fidal (1, Exas) diadinal (1, Exas) diadin	DBrwn M 50 2 2 Thmsn p 2 0 1 0	GAndsn cf 4 2 3 0 CWilsn lf 4 0 0 0 JGillen lf 4 0 1 1 Mckwk 3b 3 1 2 1		No outs when winning run scored.
San Francisco 8, Toronto 5 Pittsburgh 5, Anaheim 2 Minnesota 6, Montreal 4 Florida 2, Chicago White Sox 1, 11 inn. N.Y. Mets 6, Cleveland 2	DWise ph 1 0 0 0 Totals 40 10 13 10 Totals 36 410 3 Kansas City 000 201 520-10 Atlanta 100 000 300-4	Molnac 2 0 0 0 Stynes 3b 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 10 0 Stynes 3b 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 Stynes 3b 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 Mesa p 0 0 0 0 Amzgas 2 0 0 0 0 Reman ph 2 0 0 0 Stynes 2 0 0 0 Stynes 2 0 0 0 Stynes 3b 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 Stynes 2 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 Dynon ph 2 0 0 0 0	CaLee If 5 0 0 0 LHarrs If 3 0 0 0 Vientin ss 4 0 0 0 Mrdcai ph 1 0 0 0 Crede 3h 4 0 1 0 Renitez p 0 0 0 0	Oakland IP H RER BB SO
St. Louis 5, Oakland 4 Arizona 6, N.Y. Yankees 1	Divise th 1 0 0 0 Totals 40 10 13 10 Totals 20 20 15 20 - 10 4 tana 41	Amzga ss 2 0 0 0 1 Romn cr 4 2 3 3 Quinlan 3b 1 0 0 0 Benson p 2 0 0 0 0 Colon p 2 0 0 0 0 ANunez 2b 1 0 0 0 Salmon ph 1 0 1 0 0 Grego p 0 0 0 0 0 Totals 33 2 7 2 Totals 33 5 11 5	Politte p 0 0 0 0 Tranor ph 1 0 1 1 Gload rf 4 0 1 0 Rdmnd c 4 0 0 0 Olivo c 4 1 1 0 Chol 1b 4 0 1 0 Marte p 0 0 0 0 AGnziz ss 3 1 1 1 Knerko 1b 0 0 0 0 Beckett p 1 0 0 0 Olivo c Chol 2b Cho	Odkatana THudson 7½ 8 2 2 3 5 RRingon ½ 0 0 0 0 0 Rradford ½ 0 0 0 0 1 Mecir L.0-5 0 3 3 3 0 0 St. Louis
lampa say 4, San brego 1 Los Angeles 4, Saltimore 3 Oakland at Chicago Consolo Seattle at Pittsburgh Chicago White Sox at Montreal Kansas City at Philadelphia Detroit at N.Y, Mets Texas at Florida reas as Teroida	IP H RER BB SO	Tötäls 3 2 7 2 Totals 3 5 11 5 Anaheim 000 010 100-22K-5 E-TRedman (1), DP-010 100 22K-5 E-TRedman (1), DP-010 100 22K-5 E-TRedman (2), DW-010 105, WR-3WI- son (5), Kendall (12), TWISon (16), HR-3WI- son (5), MacKowiak (12), TRedman 2 (4). CS-MacKowiak (13), S-Benson Manaheim Colon 1, 46 8 8 8 00 Anaheim 7 8 8 3 3 2 4	Loaizap 3 0 0 0 BHwrdp 0 0 0 0 Burke c 1 0 0 Willisph 1 0 1 0	St. Louis Suppan 5 8 4 3 0 3 Eldred 2 1 0 0 0 0 Simontacchi 12/3 0 0 0 0 1 Mecir pitched to 5 batters in the 9th. HBP— by Mecir (Lankford). W. Suppan, Byrnes
Kansas City at Philadelphia Detroit at N.Y. Mets Texas at Florida Cleveland at Atlanta	BriAnderson 2 4 3 1 0 0 Grimsley 1 1 0 0 0 1 Seanez 1 0 0 0 0	son (6), Mackowiak (12), TRedman 2 (4). CS—Mackowiak (3). S—Benson. IP H RER BB SO	Easley ph 1 0 0 0 0 Mnzillo p 0 0 0 0 0 Nnnez if 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	T-3:08. A-32,528 (50,345).
Cleveland at Atlanta Anaheim at Houston Minnesota at Milwaukee Baltimore at Colorado Toronto at San Diego	Gryboski '/2 3 2 2 1 0 Nifkowski 1 2 2 2 0 0	Gregg 1 3 2 2 0 0		Devil Rays 4, Padres 1 TAMPA BAY abrhbi Bandeld Barhbi Bandeld Barhbi
Minnesota at Milwaukee Baltimore at Colorado Toronto at San Diego Tampa Baya A Arizona Tampa Baya A Arizona Boston at San Francisco Boston at San Francisco Boston at San Francisco Oakland (Mulder 8-2) at Chicago Cubs (Pi	JUCTUZ 1 0 0 0 1 1 WP-May, Nitkowski. T-2:38. A-28,578 (50,091). Mariners 6, Brewers 3	Benson W.5-6 8 5 2 1 0 8 Mesa S.16 1 2 0 0 0 0 T-2:19. A-15,395 (38,496). Diamondbacks 6, Yankees 1	lo (11). CS—Thomas (2).	Crwfrd If 5110 Payton cf 5110 JoCruz, rf 4000 Brighs 3b 4030 Baldelli cf 4121 Loretta 2b 4011 Huff3b 4000 Billes rf 4000 McGrff 1b 4112 Nevin 1b 3010
Oakland (Mulder 8-2) at Chicago Cubs (Prior 1-1) Boston (P.Martinez 7-3) at San Francisco (Lowry 0-0) N.Y. Yankees (Halsey 0-0) at Los Angeles	SEATTLE MILWAUKEE	NEW YORK	Chicago Loaiza 8 5 1 1 2 5 Marte Politte L,0-2 Plorida 8 5 1 1 2 5 0 0 0 0 5 Politte L,0-2 Plorida	MUSTIT 10 4 1 1 2 Nevin 10 3 0 1 0 1
(Nomo 3-7) Texas (Benoit 2-2) at Florida (Willis 6-3) Cleveland (Westbrook 6-2) at Atlanta	ISuzuki rf 5 0 3 0 Jénkińs lf 5 0 0 0 BBoone 2b 3 0 0 0 Ovrbay lb 4 1 1 0	ARGIGESTS 4 1 1 1 DBtista.rt 4 1 1 2	Becket 3 ³ / ₂ 2 0 0 0 8 BHoward 1 ² / ₂ 2 1 0 1 2 Oliver 2 2 0 0 0 1 JManzanillo 2 0 0 0 1 Benitez W.2-0 2 0 0 1 1	Colomé p 0 0 0 0 Long ph 0 0 0 0 DBaez p 0 0 0 0 Neal p 0 0 0 0 THall c 3 0 1 1 Wtsick p 0 0 0 0 Gaudin p 1 0 0 0 0tsuka p 0 0 0 0 Blum 2b 2 0 0 0 Rbnson ph 1 0 1 0 Totals 32 4 5 4 Totals 35 1 10 1
Seattle (Pineiro 2-8) at Pittsburgh (K.Wells 3-5) Anaheim (Ra.Ortiz 2-5) at Houston (Clem-	MMyrs p 0 0 0 0 BHall 3b 4 1 2 0 Hsgwa p 0 0 0 0 Kinney p 0 0 0 0 Grdado p 1 0 0 0 Kinney p 0 0 0 0 Spiezio 3b 3 1 1 1 Liefer ph 1 0 0 0 Bechea cf 4 0 0 0 Adams p 0 0 0 0	Shiffield rt 4 0 0 0 0 Hinbrn 1b 4 11 2 Posada c 3 0 0 0 Tracy 3b 4 0 0 0 Matsuil rt 3 0 0 0 Tracy 3b 4 0 0 0 EWilsn 2b 2 0 1 0 Brito c 4 13 2 Lieber p 3 0 1 0 Sparks p 2 0 0 Hredia p 0 0 0 0 Zinter ph 1 0 0 0 Frinz P 0 0 0 0 0 Sseris p 1 0 0 0	A=17,857 (36,331).	Tampa Bay 000 002 110-4
ens 9-1) Minnesota (Radke 4-3) at Milwaukee (Obermueller 3-2) Chicago White Sox (Munoz 0-0) at Montre-	Splezio Sp. 3 1 1 0 Liefer pp. 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	Lieber p 3 0 1 0 Sparks p 2 0 0 0 Hredla p 0 0 0 0 0 Zinter ph 1 0 0 0 Prinz p 0 0 0 0 Dssens p 1 0 0 0 Sierra ph 1 0 0 0 Totals 29 1 4 1 Totals 3 4 6 11 6 New York	Phillies 6, Tigers 2 First game PHILADELPHIA AND IN THE PHILADELPHIA AND IN T	E-Nevin (6), Klesko (1), Greene (12), pP-San Diego 1, LOB-Tampa Bay 9, San Diego 11, 2B-THall (6), Rafernandez (8), 3B-Payton (2), HR-McGriff (2), SB-Craw- ford (29), Baldelli (6), S-Colome, Gaudin.
al (Armās Jr. 0-2) Kansas City (Greinke 1-2) at Philadelphia (Milton 8-1) Detroit (Johnson 4-7) at N.Y. Mets (Leiter 2-2) Baltimore (DuBose 4-5) at Colorado (Fasse- ro 0-6)	Seattle	Prinz D 0 0 0 0 DSSens P 1 0 0 0 Totals 29 1 4 1 Totals 34 611 6 New York Arizona 1. LOB—New York A, Arizona 1. LOB—New York S, Arizona 6. ZB—SFinista (1), DB—New York J, Arizona 1. LOB—New York S, Arizona C, DS—New York J, Arizona (1), DBautista (13), Hillenbrand (12), Olson	ASpents of A.O.I.O. Bolling on A.I.O.O.	SF-Loretta. IP H RER BB SO Tampa Bay Gaudin W.1-1 5 7 1 1 1 4
elay 0.3)	10	(2), HR – ARodriguez (16), Brito (1), CS – Posada (2). IP H RER BB SO New York Lieber L5-4 7 9 4 4 1 4	Administrative 12 0 planning 200 3 1 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Gaudin W.1-1 5 7 1 1 1 4 JoSosa 1 1 0 0 2 3 LCarter 1/3 0 0 0 0 1 Colome 1/3 0 0 0 0 0 DBaeg S,13 1 1 0 0 0 1
Timpis Bay (Grazelton 0-0) at Arizona (Good 0-1) underly interleague games Cleveland at Atlanta Chicago White Sox at Montreal Detroit at N.Y. Mets Detroit at N.Y. Mets Detroit at N.Y. Mets Ariansa City at Philadelphia Annaheim at Houston Methodologies (Constitution of Control of Contro	Seattle RFranklin 6 ³ /1 9 3 3 4 4 MMyers W,3-1 ² /2 0 0 0 0 0	Heredia 0 0 1 1 1 0 Prinz 1 2 1 1 0 1 Arizona	Múnson 3b 31 11 Ginville cr 4 0 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	BBaez S.13 1 1 0 0 0 1 San Diego 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 San Diego 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Seattle at Pittsburgh Kansas City at Philadelphia Anahelm at Houston Minnesota at Milwaukee	Haselawa 73 0 0 0 1 2 Guardado S,12 11/3 1 0 0 0 2 2 Milwauke Capuano 6 4 2 2 4 4 Kinney L,3-4 2 4 2 2 0 1 Adams 1 3 2 2 0 0 1 7-2:55. A-19,057 (41,900).	Sparks W.3-4 7 3 1 1 7 3 1 2 7 3 1 1 7 3 2 1 1 7 3 2 1 1 7 3 2 1 1 1 7 3 2 1 1 1 7 3 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Norton 3b 1 0 0 0 Totals 33 2 7 2 Totals 28 6 7 6	HBP—by Eaton (Lugo). T—2:46. A—28,321 (42,445). Dodgers 4, Orioles 3
Oakland at Chicago Cubs Texas at Florida Baltimore at Colorado Toronto at San Diego	T=2:55. A=19,057 (41,900). Red Sox 11. Rockies 0	Twins 6, Expos 4	Philadelphia 000 102 30x – 6 E—Higginson (2), DaBell (11), DP—Detroit 2, LOB—Detroit 6, Philadelphia 7, 28—ASanchez (6), IRAGIGUEZ (14), White (16), Irag (6), Thome	BALTIMORE LOS ANGELES
Texas at Florida Baltimore at Colorado Toronto at San Diego Boston at San Francisco Tampa Bay at Arizona N.Y. Yankees at Los Angeles	BOSTON	abrh bi CGzmn ss 5 0 3 1 Wlkrsn rf 4 1 0 0 Mntkw 1b 5 1 1 1 EChvez cf 5 0 0 0 LFord lf 4 1 1 0 Vldro 2b 4 1 3 1	(15), Michaels (1), Lieberthal (13), HR—Munson (8), Michaels (3), SF—CGuillen, DaBell, IP H RER BB SO Detroit	Hrst Jr 2b
National League East Division W L Pct GB	DOrtiz 1b 4 1 3 5 Helfon 1b 3 0 0 0 Crespo 2b 1 0 0 0 Castilla 3b 2 0 1 0 MRmrz if 4 0 0 0 Pellow 3b 1 0 1 0	THoter cf 4 0 1 1 0Cbera ss 5 0 1 0 Jiones rf 4 0 0 1 CEvrtt if 3 1 1 0	Detroit P H R R B SO	Surhoff rf 4 0 2 2 JHrndz 2b 3 0 0 0
Florida 37 29 .561 — Philadelphia 34 30 .531 2 Atlanta 31 34 .477 5/2 New York 31 34 .477 5/2 Montreal Central Division 16	McCty 1b 1 0 0 1 Burnitz cf 3 0 1 0 Greprr ss 5 2 3 0 Frman cf 1 0 0 0 Wilmsn p 0 0 0 0 0 Hilliday lf 3 0 1 0 Dnardo p 0 0 0 0 Jarvis p 0 0 0 0 Nixon cf 3 1 2 0 Dhamp p 0 0 0 0	Cddyer 2b 2 1 1 0 Schndr C 4 1 3 0 Rivas 2b 1 1 1 0 LHrndz p 2 0 1 1 Gerrier p 1 0 0 0 Bentz p 0 0 0 0 Rstvich ph 1 0 0 0 Sledge ph 1 0 0 0 Mihlind p 0 0 0 0 0 Ayala p 0 0 0 0 0 Lecroy ph 1 1 1 2 Horgan p 0 0 0 0	Philadelphia BMyers W.5-3 Worrell 1 2 0 0 0 0 BWagner 1 1 0 0 0 1 Colyer pitched to 1 batter in the 7th. T-2:31. A-44,551 (43,500).	RLOPEZ P 0 0 0 0 Grbwsk ph 1 1 1 2 BRbrts ph 1 0 0 0 Drifort p 0 0 0 0 Bedard p 2 0 0 0 Mota p 0 0 0 0 Gbbons rf 2 0 0 0 Vrtura ph 1 0 0 0 DRbrts pr 0 0 0 0
Central Division St. Louis 39 27 .591 — Chicago 37 29 .561 2	Nixon rf 3 1 2 0 Dhmnn p 0 0 0 0 8 Appler rf 0 0 0 0 0 Chson ph 1 0 1 0 Varitek c 3 0 0 1 Greene c 4 0 0 0 Reese 2b 4 1 2 2 LuGnzl rf 2 0 1 0 DLowep 2 0 0 0 Cook p 1 0 0 0 Millar lf 2 1 1 0 MaSwy ph 1 0 0 0	Balfour p 0 0 0 0	Tigers 5, Phillies 4 (11)	
Houston 33 30 .524 4/2 Houston 33 32 .508 5/2 Pittsburgh 26 36 .419 11	Kroon p 0 0 0 0 Heking If 1 0 0 0	Minnesota 000 001 221-6 Montreal 111 000 010-4 E-Guzman (8). DP-Minnesota 1, Montre- 11 1. OR-Minnesota 5 Montreal 10 28 - Ko-	Second game	(16), Grabowski (5). SB—ShGreen (2).
Los Angeles 35 28 .556 — San Francisco 35 31 .530 1½ San Dilego 33 32 .508 3 Arizona 27 39 .409 9½ Colorado 223 42 .354 13 Thursday's NL game	Totals 3811.1411 Totals 31 6 6 0 Boston Colorado 1020 010 332-11 Colorado 10-20 010 332-11 Colorado 10-20 010 320-11 Colorado 8. 23-Damon 2 (20), Bellhorn (15), Colorado 8. 23-Damon 2 (20), Bellhorn (15), Boston 1, Boston 1, Boston (15), Boston (15), Boston (15), Boston (16), Boston (17), B	Nathan p 1 0 0 0 0 1 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	Urbina p 0 0 0 0 ToPerz 2h 6 0 1 0 Norton ph 1 1 1 0 BAbreu r 5 0 0 0 DPttsn p 0 0 0 0 Toberz 2h 6 0 1 0 Hugnsn r 6 1 3 1 Ledee lf 2 0 0 0 Celllen ss 6 0 2 1 Mchels lf 2 0 1 0	RLopez L,5-3 3 4 3 3 2 4
Chicago Cubs 5, Houston 4 Friday's NL game Chologoptiat 5t Louis	parra (1), HR-DOrtiz (14), SB-Damon (8), S-DLowe, SF-McCarty. IP H RER BB SO Boston M S F 7 4 9 9 4 2	Minnesota Guerrier 4 6 3 2 1 3 Mulholland 2 1 0 0 1 1 Fultz W,3-2 1 0 0 0 0 0	ASnchzef 1000 Byrdef 5130	Los Angeles Shi 6 9 3 3 1 3 1 1 1 1 1 1
Cincinnati Acevedo 3-5) at St. Louis (W.Williams 4-6) Sunday's NL game Cincinnati at St. Louis	Dinardo 1 2 0 0 0 1	Nathan S,18 1 1 0 0 0 1	Infante 2b 2 0 0 0 Burrell ph 1 0 0 0 Inge c 5 1 1 1 Worrell p 0 0 0 0	Cubs 5, Astros 4
Thursday	Cook L.I-2 5 6 3 3 4 7 Kroon 1 0 0 0 1 0 Jarvis 1 5 6 6 3 0 Dohmann 2 3 2 2 1 1 Jarvis pitched to 4 batters in the 8th. WP— Cook. T—3:16. A—40,088 (50,449).	Montreal LHmdz L3-7 74/ 8 5 5 2 8 Bentz // 0 0 0 0 0 Ayala Ayala // 0 1 1 0 0 Horgan HBP-by LHernandez (Koskie), by Guerrier (CEverett), WP-Mulholland. T-2:59. A-10,044 (46,338).	Nilkr p	abrhbi TWalkr 2b 3 1 0 0 Bigglo cf 4 0 2 0 ROrdnz ss 3 0 0 0 Ensbrg 3b 3 0 0 0 ARmr 3b 1 0 0 0 Rekmo lf 4 2 2 1
Reds 4, Rangers 3	Cianto C Plus Ious E	Mets 6. Indians 2	Rdrgz c 2 0 0 0 Totals 46 5 14 5 Totals 43 4 11 4 Detroit 003 000 001 01-5 Philadelphia 001 100 200 00-4	CPttson cf 5 2 3 0 JKent 2b 3 1 0 0 Alou lf 5 1 3 3 Bgwell 1b 3 0 0 0 Hlndsw rf 5 1 2 0 Lane rf 4 1 2 2 DeLee 1b 5 0 3 2 RChavz c 3 0 0 0
MYong ss 4000 Freel 2b 4111 Bialock 3b 4122 Larkin ss 2111 ASrano 2b 4000 Casey 1b 3021 Txeira 1b 4111 Grf Jr, cf 3001 Dilucci rf 3000 Dunn if 3000	TORONTO abr h bi abr h bi Br h	CLEVELAND NEW YORK	Rdrq2 C 20 0 0 Totals 43 411 4 Totals 46 514 5 Totals 43 01 01 01-5 Betroit 03 000 001 01-5 Betroit 03 000 001 01-5 Betroit 03 000 000 00-4 E-GGillen (7), DaBell (12, DP Detroit 1. LOB – Detroit 11, Philadelphia 11. 2B – JSmith (2), Higginson (12), Rollins (13), HR-Inge (7), Ledée (6). SB–ASanchez (17), Rollins (13), BAbreu (14). S–ASanchez	Alou II 5 1 3 3 Sylvent II 3 0 0 0 1 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2
EYong If 4010 LaRue c 4000 Hckaby c 3010 JClark rf 3000 Conti cf 3000 Hmmel 3b 4130 RShsen 0000 Poppel 1000	Jhnson rf 4 1 1 1 Minor 1b 3 1 0 0 Zaun C 3 0 1 1 Rnsom ss 0 0 0 0	Hafner 1b 4 0 2 1 Plazza c 4 0 0 0 VMrtnz c 4 0 0 0 Stanton p 0 0 0 0	Detroit Knotts 5 4 2 2 1 4 IWalker 1 1 0 0 0 3	Totals 37 5 13 5 Totals 30 4 6 4 Chicago 100 001 201-5 Houston 010 001 002-4 F-Oswalt (2), IVizcaino (4), DP-Chicago
WPenaph 1000	Hinske 3b 3 1 2 0 Herges p 0 0 0 0 0 OHudsn 2b 4 0 2 1 Alfonzo 3b 5 2 2 0 Hiladay p 3 0 0 0 Feliz ss 4 0 2 2 Chulk p 0 0 0 0 0 Mohr If 3 1 2 2 Adams p 0 0 0 0 0 Tralba c 4 0 1 0 Speier p 1 0 0 0 Hmnns p 2 0 0 0	Gerut 7 2 0 1 0 Floyd II 1 3 0 1 0 Billard 2b 3 0 0 0 Wilams II 0 1 0 0 1 0 Floyd II 1 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0	Yan 1, 3 2, 2 0 1 1 Colyer 1, 3 0 0 0 1 1 1 Dingman 2/3 1 0 0 1 1 1 Urbina W,2-2 2 2 0 0 0 2 4 DPatterson S,2 1 0 0 0 0 0	Chicago 100 001 201-5 Houston 010 001 002-4 E-Oswalt (2) "Vizcaino (4), PP-chicago 1, Houston 1. LOB-chicago 10, Houston 3. 2B-CPatterson 2 (10), DeLee 2 (24), Berk- man (17). 3B-CPatterson (4). HR-Berkman (16), Lane (1). S-ROrdonez, Rusch, Ensberg.
Totals 32 3 7 3 Totals 29 4 8 4 Texas 012 000 000-3 Cincinnati 000 100 30x-4 E-Blalock (5). LOB-Texas 3, Cincinnati 8. E-Huckaby (1). Drese (1), Casey (24). Hummel (4), HR-Blalock (16), Telxeira (10).	DCruz ph 1 0 0 0	Bartosh p 0 0 0 0 JoFrco p 0 0 0 0	Philadelphia Millwood 6 7 3 3 1 7 Cormier 1 0 0 0 0 1	Chicago Rusch W4-1 8 4 2 2 2 7
2B-Huckaby (1), Drese (1), Casey (24), Hum- mel (4). HR-Blalock (16), Telxeira (10). CS-Dellucci (4). S-Van Poppel. SF-Casey, Griffey Jr	Bonds ph 0 1 0 0	Miller p	Worrell 1 1 0 0 0 2 BWagner 1 1 1 1 0 2 RHemandez 1 2 0 0 1 1 Madson L4-2 1 3 1 0 0 2 WP-Knotts, T-3:45, A-39,674 (43,500).	Hawkins 5.8 1 2 2 2 0 1 Houston Oswalt L.4-6 7 11 4 4 2 6 Harville T -2:27. A -41,397 (40,950).

Mets trade for Hidalgo in bid to spark offense

BY JOEL ANDERSON The Associated Press

HOUSTON - Hoping to help their sagging offense, the New York Mets acquired right fielder Richard Hidalgo from the Houston Astros on Thursday right-handers David Weathers and Jeremy Griffiths.

Hidalgo has put up big numbers in the past, but he was in the midst of a disappointing season with the Astros. He recently lost his starting job to Jason Lane, and soon after went to General Manager Gerry Hunsicker and asked to be traded

"We're pleased to have him," Mets manager Art Howe said. "I know what he can do. He's a run-producer, an outstanding right fielder. He hasn't played on a regular basis. He'll get that op-portunity here. It's a fresh start for him. I know he's a good middle-of-the-order hitter.

Weathers adds an experienced middle reliever to Houston's bullpen, which is in desperate need of help there. The Mets also get \$4 million from the Astros to offset the difference in salaries.

The 28-year-old Hidalgo is batting .256 with four homers and 30 RBIs, a huge drop-off from last year's .309 average with 28 home runs and 88 RBIs. He was voted the Astros' MVP in 2003. Hidalgo had been in Houston's

organization since he was signed out of Venezuela at age 16 in



Hidalgo

This is like my second home," my first time being traded It's a business. I don't have any control

This could be the first of several moves for the slumping Astros, who entered Thursday night fifth in the NL Central. Houston had lost 20 of 32, dropping to 33-31.

Hidalgo's struggles at the plate were symptomatic of the team's overall problems on offense the Astros had been held to fewer than five runs for 15 straight

We're not going to watch what we've been watching all year," Hunsicker said. "We're going to try to create a spark."

New York will probably put Hidalgo in the middle of the lineup, hoping he can provide some needed protection for Mike Piazza and Cliff Floyd. Hidalgo was expected to join the Mets in time for Friday night's game against De-

Hidalgo is still owed \$6.62 million of his \$12 million salary this season, and the Mets inherit a \$15 million option for 2005. But they're almost sure to decline that and pay a \$2 million buyout.

"Fifteen million is a difficult sal-" Mets General Manager Jim Duquette said.



Los Angeles Dodgers' Juan Encarnacion, left, is out at second as the Baltimore Orioles' Miguel Teiada reacts to his overthrown ball at first during the second inning Thursday in Los Angeles. The Dodgers' Jose Hernandez was safe at first and advanced to second on the throwing error. The Dodgers won 4-3.

Cardinals upend A's in ninth

St. Louis completes series sweep with three-run rally

ST. LOUIS - The Cardinals already had the National League's best record. They showed they can pull off a comeback victory,

Pinch-hitter Reggie Sanders capped a three-run rally with a game-winning single in the ninth inning, leading St. Louis to a surprising 5-4 victory over the Oak-land Athletics on Thursday night. It was the first time St. Louis came back from a ninth-inning deficit after being 0-for-24 in that

"The early part of the year, we weren't able to win those late games," Sanders said. "Every-

situation

thing is clicking right now."

The Cardinals have won 13 of 17 and swept the A's, who came to St. Louis on an eight-game winning streak

Coming back like that against a good team like that is a good ," Sanders said.

With Oakland leading 4-2. Edgar Renteria and Cody McKay opened the ninth with singles, and Ray Lankford was hit by a pitch to load the bases with no

A's second baseman Marco Scutaro then booted Marlon Anderson's grounder to allow two runs to score.

Sanders followed with a single off Jim Mecir (0-5) to complete the comeback for the Cardinals, who are 39-27 and hold a two-game lead in the NL Central.

"We have so many clutch players, so many guys that are ninth-inning guys, that it's the first time we've reversed it," manager Tony La Russa said. "We should do it as much as anybody because we've got a lot of pressure, clutch guys."

Ray King (1-0) got the last out in the ninth for the win.

Oakland's short-handed bulln wasted a good effort by Tim Hudson, who allowed two runs on eight hits

Baseball roundup

In other interleague games Thursday: Royals 10, Braves 4:Darrell

May (4-8) beat his former team, and Desi Relaford went 3-for-5 with three RBIs for Kansas City. The Royals improved their AL-worst road record to 9-21 with their second victory in a row.

Mariners 6. Brewers 3: Scott Spiezio hit a tiebreaking homer leading off the eighth inning, sending Seattle to a victory in Milwau-

Jolbert Cabrera homered and drove in three runs, and Randy Winn also connected for the Mariners.

Red Sox 11, Rockies 0: Derek Lowe pitched four-hit ball for seven innings in the 25th shutout in Coors Field history, and David Ortiz drove in a career-high five

runs to help Boston avoid a sweep. Lowe (6-5) allowed just two flyballs and struck out three for his third win in four starts.

Giants 8, Blue Jays 5: Michael Tucker hit a tiebreaking triple in the eighth, and the Giants completed a three-game home sweep Justin Speier (1-4) took the

Pirates 5, Angels 2: Tike Red-man and Jack Wilson homered in Pirates' go-ahead seventh, and Kris Benson (5-6) earned his first home win since May 10.

Jose Mesa worked the ninth for his 16th save in 16 chances.

Twins 6, Expos 4: Matthew LeCroy hit his third pinch-hit homer in three at-bats this season, and Minnesota rallied for a

three-game sweep at Montreal. Torii Hunter's RBI double in the eighth put the Twins ahead to stay, sending the Expos to their sixth consecutive loss. Marlins 2, White Sox 1 (11): Pinch-hitter Matt Treanor singled home the winning run with two outs in the 11th, and Florida beat visiting Chicago after losing Josh Beckett to another injury.

The World Series MVP left his start in the fourth with a muscle strain on the side of his back. He's day to day.

Mets 6. Indians 2: Mike Cameron hit his first homer since May 10, and five Mets pitchers combined on a five-hitter at Shea Sta-

ondbacks 6, Yankees 1: Knuckleballer Steve Sparks (3-4) allowed one run in seven innings and Juan Brito hit his first major league homer for Arizona in Phoe-

New York had a four-game winning streak snapped

Dodgers 4. Orioles 3: Adrian Beltre snapped a tie with a homer in the eighth to lift the Dodgers to a three-game sweep at Chavez Ra-

Beltre's 16th homer came two innings after pinch-hitter Jason Grabowski hit a tying two-run shot off Rodrigo Lopez (5-3).

Phillies 6, Tigers 2; Tigers 5, Phillies 4 (11): Jason Michaels homered and drove in four runs for the Phillies in the opener of a doubleheader day_night Philadephia.

In the nightcap, Carlos Guil-len's two-out RBI single off Ryan Madson (4-2) in the 11th helped Detroit earn a split. The game was delayed 51 minutes by rain before the sixth inning, the fourth straight day weather affected a Phillies game.

Cubs 5, Astros 4: Glendon Rusch (4-1) pitched eight strong innings, Moises Alou drove in three runs and Chicago won its sixth straight in the only National League game of the day. Chicago completed its first

four-game sweep of the Astros since June 23-25, 1967, and first



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McGriff, Devil Rays

BY BERNIE WILSON The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO - After testing the depths of Petco Park in his first two at-bats. Fred McGriff uncoiled his smooth swing and sent his 493rd career home run sailing into - naturally - the home run porch down the right-field line.

McGriff pumped his fist as he rounded first base, having taken another step toward his goal of 500 homers and helping the Tampa Bay Devil Rays extend franchise-record winning streak to eight games with a 4-1 win over the San Diego Padres on Thursday night.

"It felt good because it's been a lot of years," said McGriff, who tied Lou Gehrig for 21st on the career list. "Home runs are tough This is a big yard. It's 411 in right-center, 402 in left-center. I found the spot

McGriff hit his two-run homer just over the 322 sign, on a 1-0 changeup from Adam Eaton in the sixth inning. He flied out to left in his first at-bat and to center in his second.

"Freddy placed it right where it carries pretty good," Padres man-ager Bruce Bochy said. "I didn't think it was going out, but he hit it in the right spot and that really was the difference in the game. McGriff has homered in 43 ball-

parks in 18 big league seasons. McGriff was brought up from the minors May 29, resuming his quest to become the 20th player to hit 500 homers. He hit 84 homers while with the Padres from 1991 until being traded to Atlanta on July 18, 1993

"Right now, the goal is just to get to 500," McGriff said. "Not having played the first couple of

months, it's a fight right now. The Devil Rays are enjoying watching McGriff approach the milestone

"It's a blessing to be here with winning pitcher Chad Gaudin said. "Every at-bat, it's like, 'C'-mon, Freddy.' We want him to get to his goal

"He's had a heck of a career," manager Lou Piniella said



Tampa Bay starter Chad Gaudin allowed one run in five innings to earn the win Thursday against the Padres in San Diego.

The Devil Rays also swept consecutive series for the first time in their seven-year history. Before starting this trip, they beat Colorado three straight in Tampa.

The perennially woeful Devil Rays came into the series in fifth place in the AL East and jumped all the way to third.

Gaudin (1-1), who pinch-ran for McGriff in the first two games of the series, won in his fifth ca-reer start. He allowed one run and seven hits in five innings. struck out four and walked one Danys Baez pitched the ninth

for his 13th save in 15 chances. The Devil Rays had just five hits but the Padres, their offense still sputtering, wasted a superb effort by Eaton (3-7)

The right-hander allowed one earned run and two hits in six innings in San Diego's season-high fifth straight loss. The Padres have dropped from first in the NL West to third during the slump.

McGriff's homer gave Tampa Bay a 2-1 lead. Rocco Baldelli was aboard on a fielding error by rookie shortstop Khalil Greene. the Padres' third miscue.

"That was just a horrible ball-game for us tonight," Bochy said. "Play like that and you're going to

Milestone night for Griffey's quest for 500th homer hits road following Reds' sweep

CINCINNATI - Junior is taking his quest for No. 500 back on the road, still aglow over three incredible days in his hometown

Ken Griffey Jr. failed to get his milestone homer Thursday in front of another capacity crowd but the Cincinnati Reds pulled off another late rally for a 4-3 victory and three-game sweep of the Texas Rangers.

Sean Casey had a pair of hits and a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the seventh, a consolation prize for a raucous crowd that saw Griffey go 0-for-3 with a sacrifice

The Reds then headed for St. Louis, where Griffey will resume his attempt to become the 20th player to reach the 500-homer

mark. 34-year-old outfielder wanted badly to get it in his hometown, which gave him three days

of unforgettable ovations. "You always want to try to hit that home run," he said. "I just didn't do it this time. A lot of people will be watching in Cincinnati in the next week. I'll still be thinking about the response I've had

the last three days He hadn't been so warmly received in his hometown since he arrived in a February 2000 trade with Seattle, and he made sure that fans knew how much he anpreciated it When Griffey caught Eric

Young's fly in centerfield to end the game, he pointed to fans in left field, then the ones in right, before running off the field.

44 He was pressing at least twice today. The biggest reason was that he

wanted to do it

Iin Cincinnatil. Ken Griffey Sr.

"They've been real supportive through this whole thing. Griffey said. "It was just my way of saying thank you

The crowd of 40,383 stood and screamed encouragement in each of his at-bats. A city that watched him grow up wanted to share one of his greatest moments

Instead, he grounded out, flied out and had a mutine sacrifice fly off right-hander Ryan Drese (3-4). Down to his last chance, he was way ahead on his final swing, striking out on a 76 mph pitch from left-hander Brian Shouse in the seventh.

Drese had to rely on his sinker because nothing else was working. He considered himself fortunate to get Griffey out.

"I threw him a cookie in his first at bat, and he hit a ground ball to second," Drese said. "I don't know if he didn't expect me to pitch him there or what." Griffev's desire to reward the

fans had a lot to do with it. "To me, he looked like he was pressing at least twice today." said his father. Ken Griffey Sr.,

Louis after the game. "The biggest reason was that he wanted to do it here, and he put a lot of unnecessary pressure on himself. I told him, 'You've got all year to hit that one home run. Griffey was in a jovial mood be-

fore the game, joking about how travel-weary relatives were upset with him for prolonging the drama. He then went out and tried too hard to end it. "He put a lot of pressure on himself," said closer Danny

Graves, who pitched the ninth for his 27th save in 33 chances. "I think he was a little out of his game. Even though he didn't hit 500, he did what he had to do to win the game.

"It'll come when people least expect it."

Junior's failure to hit one out

was the Reds' only disappointment of a reviving series. They returned home at 5 a.m. on Tuesday from an 0-7 road trip that knocked the Reds out of first in the NL Central. The Rangers lost their fourth in

row, matching their season high, as the offense again relied solely on homers and the nitching staff failed in the end. They hit six homers in the series, but batted only .201 overall.

"All we could do was hit home runs," manager Buck Showalter said. "It's not comfortable to feel like that's the way your offense has to develop every night."

All three games came down to late Reds rallies. Run-scoring singles by Ryan

Freel and Barry Larkin tied it in the seventh, and Casev followed with his sacrifice fly off Shouse.



White Sox deal Koch to Marlins

The Associated Press

MIAMI - The Florida Marlins acquired reliever Billy Koch from the Chicago White Sox for minor league infielder Wilson Valdez late Thursday night.

The deal was announced shortly after the Marlins beat the White Sox 2-1 in 12 innings. The Marlins acquired Koch and cash from the White Sox, who had recently replaced the right-hander with Shingo Takatsu - Japan's career saves leader - as the team's closer.

"I was sort of expecting it a lit-tle bit, but I didn't think [Florida]," Koch said. "Through the grapevine, I hear things. I never heard the Marlins, but it'll be good. I like the heat, I like the sun."

with the White Sox after joining them last season. He appeared in 24 games this season with eight saves in 11 opportunities and a 1-1 record - but had a 5.40 ERA

Koch allowed 24 hits and 15 runs in 23 innings.

"That will be the best scenar-io for him," White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen said. "It's a shame it didn't work out for him here because he was a class act.'

The Marlins were in need of bullnen help in the middle innings to complement a solid starting rotation and closer Ar-

mando Benitez. Koch is 28-23 with 163 career saves in six major league seasons with Toronto, Oakland and

Dismal Duval not unhappy with round

BY THOMAS BONK AND

CHRIS DUFRESNE Los Angeles Times

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. didn't make a par after the eighth hole, he made bogey or worse his last seven holes and he shot a 13-over-par 83, but David Duval was far from dissatisfied with his



onening round Open. "I would call it an enor-

mous victory for me today said Duval, who is playing his first tournament since November

Duval made a birdie at the first hole and another at the 12th, but he also had nine bogeys and three double bogeys. It didn't matter to

"Most definitely I had a good time," he said. "I enjoyed myself today. I really felt good about all the good shots I hit, didn't feel too bad about some of the bad ones I hit

"It goes without saying I'm not tournament ready. Then add the U.S. Open golf course in the mix. and that adds some shots to the score. How many, I'm not sure."



David Duval's decision to rejoin the PGA Tour during the U.S. Open has been questioned by

some pros on the tour.

Meanwhile, Jim Furyk wasn't tournament ready either, but the defending U.S. Open champion played his first round since Janu ary after wrist surgery and held up well with a two-over 72

"I definitely have some rust out said. "I'm fine, he health-wise, there's no problem. I hit it in the rough my share, so the wrist held up good. It actually felt

better than it had all week. "I am assuming that's probably a little adrenaline because I'm ex-

cited about playing." Some have questioned why

Duval would pick the U.S. Open to make his comeback, but Tiger Woods says it makes perfect sense

"He's probably doing the right thing in a weird way," Woods "Yeah, he's coming back to a said U.S. Open that's going to be tough, but if he were to come back at another tournament he would have been the story line the entire week, but because there's so many story lines he's flying under the radar and it's easier for him to come out and compete and play, and that relieves pressure on him.

Baggage claim: The nice thing about the two-under 68 Kevin Stadler shot on Thursday was that he was able to use his own clubs.

Stadler arrived in New York last week Thursday only to discover his golf clubs had not arrived with him.

Which airline? "I'd rather not say." Stadler said

Luckily, the airline eventually located his clubs and they were returned to Stadler on Saturday.

Allergies end Franco's hid

Paraguay's Carlos Franco, cit-

ing allergy problems, withdrew after playing the 14th hole. Franco said the dust kicked up

by spectators triggered his aller-'My eyes are very red," Franco d. "I can't play. I can't focus on said.

the ball. I can't focus on the Another reason Franco may have called it quits: He was nine

Amateur Levin hits hole-in-one On the first shot he hit after a weather delay of more than two hours, 19-year-old amateur Spencer Levin scored a hole-in-one on

the 179-yard 17th hole Levin used an eight-iron 'That was my first ace, so that was a good time for it," Levin

He shot one-under 69 Levin, playing in his first U.S. Open, helped lead UCLA to the Pac-10 championship in 2002-03 before transferring to New Mexi-

Woods, determined to break an 0-for-7 slump in the majors. He

opened Thursday with a pedestri-

an 72, struggling again to stay in

the fairway but confident - as al-

ways - that he can turn things

"There's an awful long way to

He was in for an awfully long

day based on his first tee shot Fri-

day. Woods pushed it into the

weeds along the right side at No

Woods said.

the tournament.

the back nine.

very aggressive.

U.S. Open

Friday At Shinnecock Hills Golf Club Southampton, N.Y. Purse: \$6.2 million lage: 6,996; Par: 70-`E (35-35) Completed First Round

Jay Haas Shigeki Maruyama Angel Cabrera Corev Pavin

Vijay Singh Brian Gay Tim Petrovic

a-Spencer Levir Mike Weir Bo Van Pelt Phillip Price

Phillip Price
Hidemichi Tanaka
Robert Allenby
Ernie Els
Fred Funk
Joe Oglivie
Zachary Johnson
Craig Parry
Retief Goosen
Billy Mayfair
Dudley Hart
Mark Calcavecchia
a-Casey Wittenberchia

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mark Calcavect a-Casey Witten Peter Lonard Chris DiMarco Shaun Micheel Kirk Triplett Justin Leonard Scott Verplank Brendan Jones Chris Pilov Chris Riley Eduardo Romero Sergio Garcia Tom Kite Tiger Woods Chad Campb Jim Furyk Cliff Kresne

Lee Janzen Stephen Lea..., JP Hayes Tochimitsu Izawa Carl Paulson Brian Davis a-Nathan Smith Brad Lardon a-Brock Mackenzie Briny Baird Lee Westwood Camilo Villegas Tom Pernice Jr Andrew Tschud John Connelly Timothy Clark Bubba Watson Dan Olsen

pan Olsen Padraig Harringtor David Toms Pat Perez a-Chez Reavie Darren Classon

Joakim Haegor Jonathan Byrd Rich Beem Dan Forsman Paul Casey Brad Faxon Kenny Perry

10 and bogeyed to go to 3-over for Tom Carter Tripp Isenhour Stewart Cink Stephen Ames Robert Garrigus Alex Cella Scott Hoch Raymond Floyd Gabriel Hjertstedi Jeff Gove David Morland IV David Raught J J Henry Haas, two weeks removed a runner-up finish in the Senior PGA Championship, continued his resurgence in surprisingly calm conditions. His opening 66 J Henry
Thomas Levet
Tim Herron
Fred Couples
Adam Scott
Tharles Howell III
teve Stricker
cott Hend
mar Uresti
istin Hicks
If No. included birdies at both par 3s on

Justin Hicks Parker McLi

John Senden Davis Love III Tom Byrum Kevin Sutherland Craig Bowden Matthew Gogel Steve Gotsche Leif Olson John Rollins Payton Osborn Jerry Kelly K J Choi Paul Lawrie Scott Weatherly John Douma

John Dourna Johnson Wagner Thomas Biorn

Jonathan Kaye Todd Hamilton Miguel Angel Jir Chris Smith Justin Rose

Casey Bourque Jimmy Green a-Oscar Alvarez

Stuart Appleby Roger Tambellin a-Nick Flanagan

'I'm hitting the ball longer than I ever have. I feel more confident with my putting, my chipping, Haas said, "But until I win, I won't say it's the best I've Maruyama isn't a fan of the

Open, with its rock-hard greens and high rough. But it sure didn't show in his round of 66. "I just tried to get even par,"

the Jananese star said

"Through the practice round, I never hit under par here. I wasn't

David Duval was just having fun. Playing competitively for the first time in seven months, the world's former No. 1 unraveled off the tee and was left with an 83.

matching his worst score as a professional Even so, he looked forward to returning Friday, certain to miss the cut but insisting that other things, such as family and

friends, were more important. "I would call it an enormous victory for me." Duval said.

Lefty: Mickelson on course for second major LEFTY, FROM BACK PAGE - that left him 3 under with It's never wise to count out

"You're going to perform like you prepare," he said. "When I got here. I was not surprised by any situation on the golf course. That makes for some good shots." Mickelson and 56 other players

returned early Friday to com-plete their first rounds, having been forced off the course Thursday evening by soupy fog that made it difficult to see the greens Mickelson finished up a 68 and

reached the midway point at 6-under 134 Fred Funk closed with two

straight birdies for a 66, leaving him 4 under for the tournament and tied with Haas and Maruyama, who teed off in the afternoon.

Angel Cabrera had to come back in the morning to wrap up the first round, matching Haas and Maruyama from a day earlier But Cabrera struggled through

an up-and-down day — every-thing from birdies to double-bo-

three holes to play Corey Pavin opened with a 67

equaling his best round ever in the Open and a thoroughly unexpected performance. The diminutive Pavin won this event the last time it was played at Shinnecock, but that was nine long years ago. He hasn't won anywhere since '96. Going back out for the second

round, Pavin bogeyed No. 4 but knocked in a putt from off the fringe at the next hole to get back to 3 under - one stroke behind the leaders

"Come on! Come on! Go!" Pavin yelled as the ball hung briefly on the lip. When it finally dropped in, he shook his head de-

With four holes left, Pavin was hanging on, 1 over for the day but 2 under for the tournament.

Making a charge: South African Retief Goosen, the 2001 Open champion, who followed even-par first round with

4-under 66

Mickelson started the day at the fearsome par 3 No. 7. Things didn't look good when he carried the green with his tee shot, wind-ing up in the thick rough. From there, just about any score was possible, but he managed to keep it to bogey — his first of the tour-nament — by sinking a 4-foot "By far the hardest hole on the

Mickelson said. wasn't fun spending the night thinking about that hole He bounced back quickly, sink-

ng a 35-footer for birdie at No. 8. "I didn't do anything special,"

Mickelson said. "I just happened to put a good roll on it." Els and Vijay Singh, both posi-tioned to knock Tiger Woods out

of the top spot in the world rankings, were right there.

Singh followed up a 68 with a solid 70 and was four strokes behind Mickelson, Els. a two-time Open champion who played in the afternoon, shot 70 on Thursday despite a terrible start - 3 over through three holes.

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Jones continues to take her case to public

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO - Marion Jones stepped up her public relations offensive by releasing results of a lie detector test her lawyer said proves she never took performance-enhancing drugs

The move came just hours after she was accused of grandstanding by the international doping chief.

Jones and her legal team have sparred recently with IOC President Jacques Rogge, the United States Anti-Doping Agency and World Anti-Doping Agency

Sports

briefs

chief Dick Pound in their attempt to clear the star sprinter of drug allegations. The latest move by

the five-time Olympic medalist involved taking a lie detector test Wednesday at her attorney's office and sending the results to

the HSADA on Thursday "The passing of the polygraph just vindi-cates and supports fully the position Marion has taken through all of this time," Burton said on a conference call. "That's the position that she never, ever used performance-enhancing drugs at any time from anybody at all. This polygraph examination fully proves that,

USADA spokesman Rich Wanninger said the agency wouldn't comment on a specific case, but that "all credible informa tion will receive the appropriate consider-

Jones was asked two questions about performance-enhancing drugs by certified polygraph examiner Richard Homer, who determined she was telling the truth Homer spent more than 20 years as a polyiner concurred after a blind analysis of the

The questions Jones was asked and answered "no" to were:

■ Did you ever personally use performance-enhancing drugs? ■ Are you now lying about any personal

use of performance-enhancing drugs? While the term "performance-enhancing drugs" was not defined, Burton said he

took it to mean "anything that was illegal or improper.' Jones is one of the most prominent ath-

letes who testified in a federal probe of a Bay Area drug lab accused of illegally distributing steroids.

USADA is investigating Jones for possible doping violations. She met with doping officials last month to discuss their evidence, and received a letter from the agen-



Olympic champion Marion Jones gestures during a news conference on Wednesday. Jones called for a public hearing in her campaign to forestall a possible drug case.

cy last week asking follow-up questions. USADA is building cases based on documents and other circumstantial evidence deriving from the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative case. Athletes can be banned without a positive drug test.

Earlier Thursday, Pound said Jones' call for a public hearing was a "grandstand performance," and he accused her of trying to avoid proper anti-doping hearing proce-

"I don't think that an athlete for whatever reason is able to subvert that process. Pound said in a conference call from Montreal. "I think it was very unfortunate that Marion was advised to use words like secret court with respect to USADA."

Hantuchova, Kuznetsova reach Eastbourne final

EASTBOURNE, England - Daniela Hantuchova rallied to upset top-seeded Amelie Mauresmo 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 Friday to reach the final of the Eastbourne grass-court tournament.

The unseeded Slovak broke for the match with a forehand pass to make her first final since October 2002.

Hantuchova will meet second-seeded Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia on Saturday. She beat fourth-seeded Vera Zvonare-

va 3-6, 7-6 (2), 6-1 in the other semifinal "I can't tell you how much I was looking forward and waiting to feel like this," said Hantuchova, who went into a slump last year after breaking into the top 10. "I'm so happy to feel like it's all back. I think today I proved it, and I was really enjoying myself out there.'

Rahman knocks out Calloway

GLEN BURNIE, Md. - Former heavyweight champion Hasim Rahman knocked out Rob Calloway in the second round Thursday night, enhancing his bid to regain the title he lost nearly three years ago. It was the third victory in a 99-day span for Rahman (38-5-1), the top-ranked contender in the World Boxing Association.

Rahman floored Calloway (44-5-1) with an overhand right, and the underdog didn't get off the canvas until several moments after the 10-count by referee Malik Waleed.

The official time was two minutes of the second round.

Before his three-match winning streak. Rahman went 0-3-1 after winning the heavyweight title with a stunning knockout of Lennox Lewis in April 2001

Rahman lost the rematch seven months later, then fell out of contention before his recent resurgence.

V. Williams, Navratilova will play against Austria

VIENNA, Austria — Venus Williams and Martina Navratilova will play for the United States against Austria in their second round FedCup clash in July, Austrian officials said Friday.

"The International Tennis Federation has signaled that Williams and Navratilova will definitely come to Innsbruck," Martin Reiter manager of the Austrian Tennis Association, told The Associated Press.

The Austrians facing the Americans on July 10-11 are Barbara Schwartz, Barbara Schett and Patricia Wartusch. The American team has vet to announce its second singles player alongside Williams.

Emmitt Smith named starter again

TEMPE, Ariz. - Emmitt Smith, the NFL's all-time leading rusher, was designated Thursday as the Arizona Cardinals starting running back.

Coach Dennis Green made the announce ment at the close of offseason workouts. Marcel Shipp, who took over last season after Smith broke his shoulder, will be the

backup. When Smith returned after missing six games, he remained the backup.

The 35-year-old Smith signed a two-year deal with the Cardinals last year after a 13 years with the Dallas Cowboys.

Last season was his worst in the NFL, with just 256 yards rushing and an average 2.8 yards a carry. Shipp rushed for 830 vards and a 3.6 average.

Rams' Little indicted on felony drunken-driving charge

ST. LOUIS - Rams defensive end Leonard Little was indicted on charges of persistent drunken driving nearly two months after police in a St. Louis suburb arrested

Little pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter in an alcohol-related wreck that killed a St. Louis woman in 1998. The latest indictment mirrors charges in a criminal complaint filed against him April 26.

Little was indicted Wednesday on charges of speeding, and as a persistent offender with felony driving while intoxicated. His lawyer, Scott Rosenblum, said Little would plead innocent

Little was arrested on April 24 after police pulled him over for speeding on an interstate. Police said he had bloodshot eves. smelled of alcohol, failed three roadside sobriety tests and admitted drinking alcohol.

The charge of driving while intoxicated normally is a misdemeanor. If convicted of the felony. Little could face up to four years in prison.

Vikings cut cornerback Kelly

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. - Cornerback Eric Kelly was released by the Minnesota Vikings on Friday after failing to report for the final week of offseason workouts and asking for his release.

Kelly, who started 11 games as a rookie in 2001 and 12 games in 2002, was expected to be Minnesota's fourth cornerback.

atriots extend Bruscl

FOXBORO, Mass. - The New England Patriots have signed linebacker Tedy Bruschi to a contract extension through 2007. Bruschi, who acts as his own agent, was

scheduled to become a free agent after the 2004 season. The new deal includes a total base salary of \$4.6 million over the next four years, according to the web site of the NFL Players Association.

Bruschi's signing bonus was not disclosed. Patriots spokesman Stacey James said Thursday the team does not comment on contract extensions.

SEC teams are halfway home at College World Series

BY ERIC OLSON The Associated Press

OMAHA. Neb. - For the second time, four Southeastern Conference teams are among the final eight vying for the national championship at the College World Series

Louisiana State, Georgia, South Carolina and Arkansas all will be at Rosenblatt Stadium, where the tournament opens with first-round games Friday and Saturday.

"I thought when I walked in here that we were in Birmingham at the Southeastern Conference tournament," Arizona coach Andy Lopez said Thursday.

In Friday's games, Arizona (35-25-1) plays Georgia (43-21)

top-ranked Texas (55-13). Saturday, Cal State Fullerton

(42-21) faces South Carolina (50-15) and Louisiana State (46-17) meets Miami (49-11) No conference has had as ma

teams in a single CWS as the SEC Four SEC teams - LSU, Alabama, Auburn and Mississippi State - made the field in 1997

Nine of the 12 SEC teams made the 64-team national tournament this year.

"It's a conference that has administrators who care about baseball and resources are provided, and they try to put you in the best situation to win," South Carolina coach Ray Tanner said.

Lopez, in his third year at Arizo-

na after coaching Florida the previous seven, said college baseball is good in the West, Southwest and Southeast.

But there is something special about the SEC, he said. Every weekend conference series is a big event in modern stadiums with big crowds, he said

"That's what really is missing on the West Coast." Lopez said. "It's an electric conference. It inspires young guys to play even better than they can at times. ... I lived it for seven years. There is no margin for error, no mercy, no

Arizona is back at the CWS for the first time since winning the national title in 1986. Lopez is one of three coaches to take three different schools to the series. He Florida in 1996 and '98. Georgia is in the CWS for the

second time since 2001. Bulldogs coach David Perno played on the 1990 Georgia team that won the national title.

Arkansas, picked before the season to finish last in the SEC West, reached the final eight for the first time since 1989. They are coached by Dave Van Horn, who guided Nebraska to the CWS in 2001 and '02.

Texas is in the CWS for a record 31st time and for the fourth time in five years.

Cal State Fullerton, which brings in a CWS-leading .385 batting average, made it back to Omaha for the fourth time since 1999 after getting off to a 15-16

"The '04 version is one of the greatest comeback seasons in Cal State Fullerton history," Titans coach George Horton said.

South Carolina has beaten 10 straight opponents in winning the SEC tournament title, its regional and its super regional against East Carolina. LSU is back in Omaha for the

13th time in 19 years. But this will be the Tigers' first meeting with Miami since Warren Morris hit his bottom-of-the-ninth homer to beat the Hurricanes 9-8 in the 1996 national championship game.

"That was the biggest nightmare of my life as a coach in that last inning," Miami coach Jim Morris said. "I really want to beat

Future (with DEI) is now for Waltrip

BY BILL WHITEHEAD Scripps Howard News Service

his week Michael Waltrip declined to comment about his accident with Rusty Wallace last week at Pocono, in which Wallace said he lost his brakes, wrecking both

Waltrip, though, might be talking soon



In the past two weeks, in races at Dover and Pocono, he's found himself the center

of attention as speculation surfaced about his future with Dale Earnhardt Inc. The source of these rumors was none other than teammate Dale Jr.

"Michael would probably want to finish his career at DEI, but the chances of that happening I wouldn't say are 100 percent right now," Earnhardt said at Dover two weeks ago. "He's going to have to run good. To bring Michael back next year, there needs to be some convincing there, you know?

After the first five races of 2004, the 41-year-old Waltrip had done little convincing. His Chevrolet has crashed out of three races, putting him way down in the driver standings and behind the proverbial eight ball. He rebounded nicely with four top-10 finishes and an outstanding second-place effort at Charlotte.

"I am really proud of the commitment and perseverance of the team," Waltrip said of his sixth-place finish at Dover after starting from the rear of the field due to a wreck in qualifying. "I am pleased with what we are doing and what we'll do in the next few weeks.

Then came the next week last week - and his run-in with

Waltrip, whose future at DEI is apparently hanging in the balance, should be able to do a little convincing in the next three weeks. He posted strong fifthand seventh-place finishes at Michigan in 2003 and will have to nut in his time next week at Sears Point, where he ran a solid 13th a

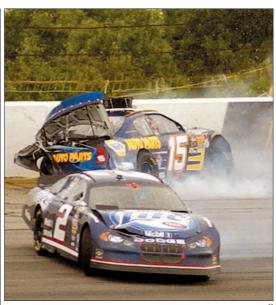
Then there's this place called Daytona he'll be visiting. Waltrip, a two-time Daytona 500 winner and a Pepsi 400 winner two years ago, no doubt will be thrilled when he nulls onto International Speedway Boulevard and probably race his way down ISB to get to "The World Center of Racing." He and Earnhardt will be co-favorites in the summer shootout two weeks from Satur-

A certain amount of uncertainty exists at DEI these days. John Andretti does much of the organization's testing and is trying to secure full-time sponsorship in the No. 1 car, which has two top 20 finishes in its three starts this year, including a 13th at Daytona in February. And the group has plans of expanding perhaps to a five-team operation in 2005, with three Cup teams and two Busch teams.

But it's Waltrip at the center of the speculation - not Andretti's sponsorship search, not Martin Truex's development, not the team's Busch future. Last week, Richie Gilmore, DEI's director of motorsports racing, gave Waltrip the dreaded vote of confidence. which in many sports is interchangeable with the term "kiss of

Said Gilmore: "Michael's in the 15 car through 2005. ... Right now, if Michael performs at the

level that we need him to - and that's top 10 - he can have that ride for five years. He has noth ing to worry about if he can perform in the top 10. Forget about Waltrip's recent good runs in the top 10 and that second at Charlotte - he needs to win a race here soon. Somewhere, anywhere, especially Daytona, where he has high expectations and definitely knows the way to Victory Lane. That will silence everyone who says his job is on the line. And I'm pretty sure Michael will start talking to everyone Bill Whitehead covers NASCAR for Scripps Treasure Coast Publishing. He can be contacted at wwhitehe@ircc.net. TARS STRIPES WHE WELL



Rusty Wallace's car, bottom, skids across the track after knocking Michael Waltrip's car into the wall on the second turn during last Sunday's NASCAR Pocono 500 at the Pocono Raceway. Wallace said he hopes the series' move to Michigan will end the string of misfortune that has plagued NASCAR the past two weeks.

Patience, please!

Drivers hope Michigan signals end to 'weird' doings

BY MIKE HARRIS The Associated Press

BROOKLYN, Mich. - Tony Stewart, of all people, called for patience in the wake of chaotic races at Dover and Pocono.

Most of the problems grew out of the changing rules governing freezing the field when the caution flag flies and when the pit lane will be open to the competi-

"In NASCAR's defense, the first time we were told as drivers about freezing the field, they said it would be a work in progress said Stewart, perhaps NASCAR's most impatient driver.

"As frustrating as it's been for everybody, I think we have to be realistic about making rule chang-

"This wasn't just whacking a quarter-inch off a spoiler or changing the size of a restrictor plate. It was a pretty drastic change. And any time you change a rule like that you're going to run into a situation that somebody didn't think of, because there's only so many different scenarios you can think of."

Former series champion Rusty Wallace said he hopes racing Sunday at Michigan International Speedway will have a calming effect on the situation.

"I really think things will calm down a whole lot this week at Michigan and I'll be totally shocked if they don't," said Wallace, the leader among active drivers with five victories and 15 top-five finishes at MIS. "The last two weeks have produced enough weirdness, controversy and torn-up race cars for a quarter of a season, let alone just the two

"I'll tell vou, it must be a situation where the moon is aligned with some of the evil stars or something weird like that. Man, with all the crashes, controversial calls and unusual stuff going on, you just wonder what could hap-

Wallace himself had some misadventures over the past two

At Dover, he was able to avoid serious damage in the crashes but a stop-and-go penalty late in the race relegated him to 13th when he appeared headed for a top five

At Pocono, he had a brake failure and crashed hard into Michael Waltrip, finishing 32nd.

"I can't believe that happened and I hate it for him and us," Wallace said, "We've had some brake problems in the past at places like Watkins Glen and at Martinsville but never at Pocono. It just shows vou how weird things have got-

Wallace figures, though, that Michigan's wide, high-banked track should be the cure for what has been ailing the Nextel Cup se-

"Michigan has always been a pretty calm place, with all the ex-citement centered around fuel mileage, pit strategy and track po-sition," Wallace said. "It's just not a place where all the crazy stuff happens."

In the 10 races run at MIS beginning with Dale Jarrett's victory in a caution-free event in 1999. only 269 of 1,956 laps have been

run under yellow. Most races on the hig track lend themselves more to fuel economy runs than fender-rub-

bing skirmishes. Whatever the rules, though, Stewart said he and the other drivers just have to work with NASCAR.

"My job is to take the rules they give us and try to win races with them." he said.



SPORTS



McGriff hits 493rd homer as Devil Rays extend win streak. Page 32

Lefty right in the thick of it

Mickelson's 4-under shows he's ready for second major

BY PAUL NEWBERRY
The Associated Press

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. — Phil Mickelson had to wait a long time for that first major. He's playing like he wants to get No. 2 right away.

The Masters champion surged to the top of the leader board at the U.S. Open on Friday, shooting a 4-under-par 66 that pushed him two strokes ahead of first-round leaders Jay Haas and Shigeki Maruyama.

"I'm swinging with confidence, knowing where the ball is going to go and taking half the trouble out of play, which makes the golf course a lot easier," said Mickelson, who has only one bogey in 36 holes at the toughest test in golf.

And here's a potential omen: Lefty made his first serious run at a major in 1995, tying for fourth in the Open when it was last held at Shinnecock Hills. His chances were ruined on the par-5 16th, which he played at 6-over for the week.

This time, he's 1-under there through the first two rounds, blasting out of the sand to 3 feet for his final birdie Friday.

"There's a lot of hard shots out there," playing partner Kirk Triplett said, "and he hit a lot of good

Mickelson was locked in, missing only three greens and three fairways, a remarkable achievement considering the difficulty of

the set-up.

It helped that the feared ocean breezes didn't materialize for the second day in a row, making it a little easier to find the fairway and keep it on the green. Bright sunshine and thick, muggy air prevailed.

Leader board

Clubhouse leaders midway through the second round of the U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club, Southampton, N.Y.:

L T	-	_
hil Mickelson		134
red Funk		136
etief Goosen		136
orey Pavin		138
ijay Singh		138
like Weir		139
at Perez		140
tephen Ames		140
irk Triplett		141
im Herron		141

Mickelson was 0-for-42 as a pro in golf's biggest events, earning the much-hated moniker "Best Player Never to Win a Major." He finally broke through at the Masters two months ago — shooting 31 on the back nine Sunday and sinking an 18-foot birdie putt on the final hole to beat Ernie Els by a stroke

If Mickelson keeps playing like this at Shinnecock Hills, he'll be halfway to a Grand Slam. He's certainly changed his "Phil the Thrill" mentality, which he demonstrated at 13 and 14 by using irons off the tee.

Mickelson also pointed to his routine before the tournament. He spent three days at Shinnecock Hills last week, practicing and getting familiar with the links style course.

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Phil Mickelson reacts to a birdie putt on the eighth hole during the second round of the U.S. Open Friday at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club in Southampton. N.Y. Mickelson shot a 4-under 66.

Sanders helps Cardinals rally past A's with ninth-inning single

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Pistons'
Ben Wallace,
Hamilton
receive
invitations
to play for U.S.
in Athens

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Drivers hope Michigan solves NASCAR's recent trouble with rules

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